

Government no longer likely to impose basic curriculum

Teachers expected to work out details

Communist interference is alleged in Chapple election

Atom power falls foul of the grave robbers

Shell seeks increase of 2.5p a gallon

French change policy on summit role for EEC

Liberal may abstain in Tory defence move

£1.46m loss by Express newspapers

Turkey hit by earthquake

Government apparently has decided against imposing a core curriculum on all schools. Instead, Miss Jackson, a junior education minister, indicated yesterday that it is likely to ask local authorities to prepare the framework of a curriculum and to leave teachers to work out the details.

Tim Devlin, Education Correspondent

The Government is not likely to impose a core curriculum on all schools as a result of the great debate on education. Instead, it is likely to ask local authorities to prepare a framework of a core curriculum and to leave the details to teachers.

At the seventh of the planned eight regional conferences on education, Miss Jackson, Under-Secretary of State for Education and Science, said in London: "The detail of how should be worked out, as well as all the implications and problems and working out at local level, should be done by teachers who are going to have to implement it at local level".

She denied a suggestion by Mr. Max Morris of the National Union of Teachers, that her department had completed the first draft of its consultative report. She said the report was still being prepared.

Mr. Samuel Fisher, chairman of the National Union of Teachers' Education Committee, said: "Heaven save us from the idea of a core curriculum. It is a concept which is not only unworkable, but it is also a concept which is not in the interests of the children of this country."

Much of value could come out of the debate, but if it were not to result in a common core curriculum of subjects, subject areas to be taught in schools would not be possible.

Communist interference is alleged in Chapple election

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The Communist Party has been accused of politically motivated intervention in the election of a general secretary of the electricians' union. A union inquiry has concluded that Communists directed the campaign of a candidate who tried unsuccessfully last March to unseat Mr. Frank Chapple.

The allegations are contained in a committee of inquiry's confidential report to the executive council of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union. Mr. Bert Ramelson, the party's industrial organizer, last night dismissed the charges as "a tissue of lies".

The report says that it is "not unreasonable" to draw a parallel between the Communist support for Mr. Harold Best, a member of the EETPU executive, and backing given to other left-approved candidates for high office in the past, particularly in the late 1950s, when in the view of the High Court the union was "controlled by Communists and pliant sympathizers".

The committee recounts that Mr. Best was elected to the executive in 1973 with nominations from only six branches and on a minority vote in his region, Yorkshire. But in March, 1976, when he stood for the office of general secretary, he got 97 branch nominations from all parts of the country and a national vote of 24,278.

"We can only assume that the sudden increase in his vote was by reason of the decision of the Communist Party to support his candidature", the report states.

"A microcosm of the whole operation in our view can be found in the situation that prevailed on the quarter night of the London central branch when nominations for the office of general secretary were taken and Brother Best was in attendance."

"There was a letter read from Brother John Byrne, of Liverpool, then a well known Communist activist in the union, who informed the branch that he was not seeking nomination but was supporting Brother Best. A discussion took place regarding a meeting which had been held with a view to obtaining one candidate of the so-called left in that election."

"This was not successful because any student of politics would have known that."

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Atom power falls foul of the grave robbers

From Our Correspondent, Rome, March 25

Two anonymous grave robbers may have succeeded, where all else has so far failed, in stopping the construction of a giant nuclear power station at Montalto di Castro on the coast of Lazio, north of Rome.

The tombardieri, who illegally excavate ancient tombs and sell their contents on the clandestine market, have blocked a stable sixth century BC Etruscan tomb right on the site where the power station is to be built.

The discovery, after a search lasting several days, overjoyed the local residents, nature lovers, scientists and other people who have so far campaigned in vain, with protests, parliamentary questions, legal action and a 10,000 strong demonstration last Sunday, to stop the project.

The discovery of archaeological remains of importance, in fact, obliges the local superintendent of antiquities by law to forbid any building whatever in the area.

Prince Nicola Caracciolo, a spokesman for a local conservation group, said that they would formally apply for the ban to be imposed. He pointed out that as Etruscan graves were never found singly, it was probably part of a necropolis. It may well be part of the as yet undiscovered third part of the Etruscan city of Vulci, he said.

Shell seeks increase of 2.5p a gallon

By Roger Vielvoe, Energy Correspondent

Proposals for a 2.5p a gallon increase in the prices of all oil products, including petrol, from the middle of next month were put to the Price Commission last night by Shell, Britain's biggest oil trading company. British Petroleum is expected to make a similar application early next week, with other leading companies.

They will face opposition from the Motor Agents Association, which feels it inappropriate for the companies to ask for higher prices when they are conducting a price war by giving many retailers substantial discounts on wholesale prices.

Shell will not decide how any increase that is granted will be distributed among the various oil products until just before the rises are implemented around the third week in April. When the company last raised prices in December petrol was excluded.

A 2p or 3p increase in petrol would bring the average price at stations not receiving discount assistance to 85p or 86p a gallon. But at present there is a difference of 10p to 15p a gallon between the cheapest petrol available and the most expensive.

The Motor Agents Association, which represents about 14,000 retailers handling seven-tenths of the petrol sold in the United Kingdom, has urged the Government to next week pointing out the confused price situation.

Shell's application to the Price Commission is based on the higher price of imported crude oil and additional costs not recovered from the three rounds of price increases last year.

Some observers of the industry have been surprised by the decision to ask for 2.5p a gallon, a view of the depressed state of the oil market.

A 3p increase in petrol might slow the gradual recovery in sales. Moreover, the efforts of the British Gas Corporation to sell natural gas from the Frigg field to industry have lessened the scope for above-average increases on industrial fuels.

Teachers expected to work out details

Mr. Alan Stephenson, secretary of the University Entrance and School Examinations Council, University of London, suggested that a group of educationists, employers and parents should decide on half the total syllabus to be covered by each examination board. It would be a national syllabus guaranteeing comparability between boards.

That plan is being considered by the examination board and the Middlesex Regional Examination Board.

Mr. Gerald Fowler, a former Labour Minister of State in charge of higher education, said it was nonsense to expect a three-year teacher training course to prepare anyone for teaching, particularly in a deprived urban area.

The Government should set aside specific grants for in-service training and develop a coherent programme to give assistance and guidance to teachers during their first years of teaching.

Earlier, Mr. Michael Marland, headmaster of Woodberry Down School, north London, had suggested that every education authority should set up teams of independent evaluators to assess school work.

He also suggested that curriculum assessment by grading, so successful in music and swimming, could be used for modern languages. "You should not have to wait until you are 16 for an examination. Could we not have interpreters' badges grade one, and so on, for children of younger age?"

"Lenient marking", page 2

French change policy on summit role for EEC

From Michael Horsby, Rome, March 25

Mr. Roy Jenkins, the President of the European Commission, appeared virtually assured here tonight of an invitation to the economic summit in London in May. The breakthrough came after a change of policy by President Giscard d'Estaing of France, who earlier had opposed the Commission's taking part.

Speaking in a television interview after the first day of a meeting of EEC heads of state and government, the French President said: "If there are questions on which the Commission has decided beforehand to have a common position, such as the North-South dialogue of rich and poor nations, then it could be possible for the Commission to attend."

The precise form which the Commission's participation should take was being discussed by the EEC leaders over a working dinner at the Palazzo Barberini, where their meeting is being held. A formula proposed by Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, would allow Mr. Jenkins to be called on to intervene at appropriate moments.

There clearly remained a lot of work to be done on defining precisely which items on the Downing Street summit's agenda qualify as "Community matters" justifying a contribution from Mr. Jenkins. Legally, anything directly impinging on the external commercial relations of the Nine is generally considered to fall within Community competence.

The sole question remaining here tonight was whether the smaller EEC countries, led by the Dutch and the Belgians, who had been pressing for Mr. Jenkins's full participation in the summit, would accept the proposed compromise. There was every sign, however, that they would be content with having won the substance of their case.

All along, the contention in Brussels and The Hague, and somewhat less vociferously in Dublin and Copenhagen, had been that the four big EEC states should not attend restricted international conferences from which their smaller partners were excluded without some arrangement being made for a Community interest to be represented.

Hitherto, that view had always been challenged by the French, who have usually sought to check any attempt by the Commission to play an independent political role. President Giscard d'Estaing also felt that the intimacy appropriate to the periodic economic summits would be destroyed if the number of participants became too large.

The French President was careful to emphasize tonight that the European Commission's presence in London would not in any sense imply its attendance "as an additional state".

Earlier, Mr. Callaghan and his colleagues had assembled on the Capitol to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome. President Giovanni Leone of Italy told the gathering that one of the main achievements of the treaty had been "to give the peoples of Western Europe the certainty that the idea of 'common nations' was once and for all past history".

Cut-price butter plan, page 3

Liberal may abstain in Tory defence move

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

The first test of the Liberal's arrangement to preserve the Labour Government in office on what Mr. Steel, the Liberal leader, regards as his terms will come in the vote on the Defence Estimates in the Commons on Monday. But according to party officials last night, when the critical Conservative amendment is put to the vote the Liberals will abstain.

The Government motion merely asks the House to take note of the Estimates.

The Conservative amendment asks the House to express its regret "that the Government's defence policy has resulted in our Forces being seriously deprived of modern equipment necessary to maintain, with the other members of the North Atlantic Alliance, sufficient combat capability to deter acts of aggression, to sustain an effective fighting force in the event of actual hostilities, and thereby to strengthen our influence in formulating the policies of the alliance".

Mr. Emyrn Hooson, MP for Montgomeryshire and chairman of the Welsh Liberal Party, who is the spokesman on defence, will have the awkward task of explaining why the Liberals cannot go with the Government on that challenge.

He is expected to give his party's support for reductions in expenditure which are to be achieved by cutting the administrative "tail" of the fighting Services. But there are reductions on other projects which the Liberals believe will seriously affect Britain's ability to meet obligations under NATO and which are being made "on an ad hoc basis and without proper discussion".

That could be regarded as the Liberals taking a typically half-committed attitude or as a means of bringing pressure on the Government to concede closer consultation to them on defence matters.

In the immediate aftermath of the accommodation arrived at this week, however, it will be seen by some as confirmation of the Liberal Conservative forecasts that the forced marriage between Labour and Liberals will soon end in divorce.

With the Conservatives on the lookout for any sign that the Lib-Lab pact is likely to collapse in the long run, Mr. Hooson's task will be difficult.

When the moment comes for the Government to fend off the challenge from its own left wing, Mr. Callaghan can be more sure about the Liberals' support, although a final decision on their attitude is being left until Monday.

That, it was explained yesterday, is being kept to the last moment not by design but by force of circumstances. The party has been so busy in negotiations with the Government over their general working arrangements that it has not been able to settle the exact voting intentions.

There would seem to be no reason why the Liberals should not vote with the Government on the motion to take note of the defence estimates, while the Conservatives abstain.

Labour left-wingers certainly intend to press their amendment. That seeks to hold the Government to its election manifesto commitment that it would reduce the proportion of Britain's resources devoted to arms to that of the other large NATO powers.

They claim that reduction would release hundreds of millions of pounds for socially useful spending. In the amendment they call for immediate plans for the movement of workers and resources from arms production to other types of manufacture.

Mr. Grimond, the former Liberal leader, is believed to be among those Liberals who have misgivings about the Government's proposed defence cuts and would therefore advise the party to abstain when the vote on the opposition motion is called rather than to vote with the Government.

Labour left-wingers will, of course, see that as an example of an attempt by the Liberals to influence the Labour Government to adopt Conservative-oriented policies.

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£1.46m loss by Express newspapers

By Richard Allen, Financial Staff

Beaverbrook Newspapers, publishers of the Daily Express, Sunday Express and Evening Standard, lost £1.46m in the first half of its current year, mainly because of its decision to delay cover price increases for as long as possible.

The loss for the period ended December 31 compared with a deficit of £202,000 in the first half of 1976/77 when Beaverbrook went on to make profits of £1.4m for the whole year.

Despite newspaper price increases of 20 per cent in May and August last year, Beaverbrook decided to hold prices of its newspapers in an effort to protect circulation figures. In consequence the group forecast a significant loss for the first six months but the actual deficit was much greater than most outside, stock market expectations.

Cover prices and some advertising rates have since been increased as a result of a further newspaper price increase in January which is expected to cost the group an extra £4m this year.

The directors say that results from the Daily Express since its January relaunch in tabloid form are very pleasing and the group is confident that it made a wise decision.

The paper is said by the board to be showing a strong circulation and improved readership profile while taking record advertising bookings.

Meanwhile, Beaverbrook has now concluded the sale of its Tollgate House development in Bristol for £5m and this will produce a profit of around £1.75m.

The £1.46m interim loss was struck after a trading loss of £914,000 on turnover 10 per cent higher at £45.7m and depreciation charges of £540,000. The group passed the interim dividend for the fourth year in succession.

The results disappointed the stock market where the non-voting "A" shares dipped 5p at one point before recovering to close 3 1/2p down at 25p. The ordinary shares eased 5p to 14 1/2p.

Beaverbrook shares have been fairly volatile in recent weeks on talk of takeover possibilities, enhanced this year by the news that Sir James Goldsmith's Cavenham group had bought 35 per cent of the "A" capital from News International. This holding represents just under 30 per cent of the total capital.

There has also been speculation that Beaverbrook and Associated Newspapers, publishers of the Daily Mail and Evening News in London, might consider some form of merger.

Turkey hit by earthquake

Ankara, March 25.—An earthquake struck eastern Turkey today killing at least 20 people. Officials said the toll was expected to rise.

Severe damage was caused in and around the small town of Palu, but fears of a greater disaster receded as a clearer picture began to emerge of the situation in the remote area more than 400 miles east of Ankara.

The earthquake struck while people slept, bringing down some flimsy homes and damaging many more. Nine hours later, Turkish radio said Army communications had succeeded in establishing contact with outlying villages, but full casualty figures were not available immediately.

An earthquake killed more than 5,000 people in eastern Turkey last November.—Reuter.

ans get police escort past hospital pickets

There were violent incidents yesterday as members of the Transport and General Workers' Union continued to blockade hospitals in Surrey, preventing the delivery of food and other supplies in support of a demand for the reinstatement of 32 dismissed domestic staff. The police were called in to sort delivery vans through the lines. Union officials led on Mr. Eynals, Secretary of State for Social Services, as he drove through the lines at the risk of his own safety. The area's main casualty last night was a 60-year-old woman who was killed by a car. Sixty consultants issued a statement condemning union members and saying that patients may have to stop attending even cancer patients emergency cases.

At Epson District Hospital windows and headlights of a milk wagon were smashed. Pickets, the driver managed to get through when he was pursued by a police escort.

Police also escorted a convoy of cars which drove through the lines at the risk of the hospital at Cobham, which the health authorities said they had been given 24 hours by the union to evacuate.

Mr. William Harper, one of the union's shop stewards, said: "We have stopped all supplies going through to get a quick end to the dispute."

Ford of Britain boosts profits to record £121m

Ford of Britain had a record year in 1976 with a nine-fold jump in pre-tax profits to £121.6m. The group's exports from Britain went up by 40 per cent. Mr. Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, has authorized a £30m loan to British Leyland, bringing the total so far advanced to £80m, including £50m advanced by the National Enterprise Board, out of £100m approved by Parliament last August under the now threatened Ryder plan. Page 17

Pension case fails

Three pensioners lost a test case challenging the Government's formula for calculating inflation-linked pension increases. Had they won, the Government would have been forced to compensate for past inflation, which would have meant paying out £500m to pensioners and other claimants. Law Report, page 4

Disciples 'saved'

A San Francisco judge has ordered five young adult members of the Unification Church, led by the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, to be handed over to their parents for 30 days of "deprogramming". Page 4

Kurds take hostages

Two Frenchmen and an Algerian have been captured by Kurdish rebels in Iraq and are being held hostage together with four Poles seized last year. The Kurds demand as ransom the return of deported Kurdish families and the freeing of political prisoners. Page 4

Mr Ram joins the Desai Cabinet

Mr. Jagjivan Ram, leader of India's Congress for Democracy, has joined the new Cabinet formed by Mr. Desai after the Prime Minister made a personal appeal to the veteran politician. Mr. George Fernandes, the socialist leader, has also joined. Page 4

Peking policy stated

China sees no prospect of its ideological quarrel with the Soviet Union being resolved, a Peking Foreign Ministry official said in an interview. But the Russians are not expected to attack at least not before settling the account with their main enemies, the United States. Page 4

Back to Iron Age

Six couples and three children were yesterday learning the art of survival in an "Iron Age" commune in Dorset which is to be their home for a year. BBC cameras will film their progress. Page 3

Hanged pupil: A public school pupil found hanged had been bullied an inquest was told. Page 3

Madrid: Former Spanish Foreign Minister resigns from the Popular Party in surprise political development. Page 3

Rawalpindi: Mr. Bhutto rearrests his opponents and forces are given shoot-to-kill orders as Pakistan tension rises. Page 4

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Virus death toll now 16 at old people's home

The death of a man aged 91 at Earsdon Grange old people's home at Montserrat, Truro and West, brought the toll to 16, but council officials expressed hopes that the effects of the virus responsible may now be waning. Page 3

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HOME NEWS

Liberal plan calls for Scottish assembly to get most of royalties from North Sea oil

From Martin Huckerby

Glasgow

Most North Sea oil royalties and the proceeds from personal income tax in Scotland would go to the Scottish Assembly under the Liberal Party's devolution plan, which was presented to the Prime Minister earlier this week.

Details of the 28-page memorandum were published yesterday by the Liberals, and Mr Russell Johnston, the leader of the Scottish Liberal Party, said in Glasgow that he thought the proposals would be acceptable.

Nevertheless, the grant of widespread economic powers to a Scottish Assembly would certainly meet serious opposition from Labour backbenchers.

There is little likelihood that the Government, even with the votes of the 13 Liberal MPs, could hope to push through a new devolution Bill proposing such powers.

However, the document will be seen by many as a basis for negotiation between the party and the Government as part of the new agreement. The memorandum calls for the Scottish Assembly to have the power to vary the basic rate of tax on personal incomes.

The Treasury would have a yield from the royalties and brought before the Scottish Assembly.

rate would be 12½ per cent, and would not be varied.

The document suggests that out of the estimated United Kingdom royalties between 1980 and 1985, at an average of £650m a year, Scotland could receive £400m a year.

Proceeds from income tax are estimated at £1,000m, which would give the assembly £1,400m a year overall, similar to the £1,300m block grant proposed by the Government, but enabling the assembly to have independence with regard to revenue.

The Liberals accept that their scheme is likely to produce administrative difficulties and expense initially, but say: "This is a price which has to be paid for the political advantages of fiscal independence and responsibility."

A large part of the document, drawn up by an unnamed group of academics, is devoted to a draft of a Scottish Bill of Rights. Mr Johnston, MP for Inverness, said the party's proposals were practical and possible, and would not do such violence to the Government's own proposals that they would be impossible to contemplate.

He seemed optimistic about the prospects for success, and said that rebel Labour MPs in the North-east and North-west of England, who had an intrinsic suspicion of the objectives of devolution, would support such a revised devolution Bill.

But it is difficult to believe that these MPs will not view the plan with more distaste than they viewed the Government's original Bill.

Our Political Correspondent writes: There is a willingness by the Government to use the proposals as a basis for progress on devolution.

Liberals and nationalists, the Government has yet to decide

whether it will continue with one Bill covering both Scotland and Wales or have two measures. But one suggestion has caused astonishment at Westminster.

Both Mr Foot, the leader of the House, who is in charge of the legislation, and Mr Steel, the Liberal leader, are giving the impression that if there is a majority in the Commons, formed by a coalition of Labour, Liberal and nationalist votes, in favour of continuing the Bill (or Bills) from one session of Parliament to the next, the will of the Commons must prevail. But the Government would also have to get a resolution for the continuation of the Bill passed in the Lords.

It would be a constitutional innovation, having immense significance for opposition parties, if such a move was approved on a government Bill.

Mr Beattie said that if a satisfactory answer was not forthcoming he could be pressing for the expulsion of all three from the coalition.

The formal attempt to discipline the MPs reflects considerable grass roots anger among Protestants, which is aimed particularly at Mr Powell, whose political style and apparent pro-Labour sympathies have lost him much Liberal support since he was welcomed as MP for Down, South, in 1974.

In his statement yesterday Mr Beattie urged Mr Powell to stand down from his seat before the next election, claiming that otherwise it could be lost to a republican.

Mr Powell was the only one of the three obstinate MPs not to attend yesterday's annual meeting of the Unionist party.

Protestant call to Mr Powell to quit seat

From Christopher Walker

Belfast

Mr Beattie, the Liberal leader, has urged Mr Powell to stand down from his seat before the next election, claiming that otherwise it could be lost to a republican.

The three Unionist MPs who refused to vote against the Government learnt yesterday that they could face the threat of expulsion from the United Ulster Unionist Coalition.

The move was made by the Rev William Beattie, a close political associate of the Rev Ian Paisley and deputy leader of the Democratic Unionist Party. He announced that Mr Powell, Mr John Carson, and Mr Harold McCusker will be asked to appear before the coalition's steering committee on Tuesday to explain their action.

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'Let Mr Freud talk his way out of this without deviation or repetition'

Lib-Lab alliance raises Tory hopes in Ely

From Robert Parker

Ely

The Conservative Party in Ely, the constituency which was taken from them by Mr Clement Freud for the Liberals in the 1973 by-election, are hubbubbing with confidence. They are certain that the effects of the Liberal deal with the Labour government this week will guarantee the seat being returned to the "rightful" owners.

One Conservative supporter in Ely yesterday said: "I should like to see Clement Freud talk his way out of this one now without hesitation, deviation or repetition," referring to the popular radio quiz *Just a Minute* in which Mr Freud takes part.

In the public houses and shops of March, Cambridge-shire, there seemed at best to be general disappointment with the Liberal deal, or at worst

something approaching anger. Mr Nigel Tarry, the manager of a butcher's shop, said: "I think the whole deal is a complete sell-out. I have never voted Labour in my life and I never shall. How do you think I feel now that the Liberals have kept Labour in power?"

"If there had been a general election I would have voted Liberal again, but not now. I shall vote Conservative next time."

Although Mrs Anne Sharp, the Liberal agent, emphatically states that the Lib-Lab deal has had little noticeable effect on local elections, a view also shared by the Labour Party, the Conservatives believe the deal has had a big effect. Of the 10 or so people I spoke to in March and Ely yesterday it does appear that many Liberal voters are rather unhappy.

Mr Andrew Varney, the agent for Dr Tom Stuttaford, the Conservative candidate, says that

the Isle of Ely is basically anti-socialist. Although Labour did well in the 1966 election, they got only 21 per cent of the poll in October, 1974, and 16.8 per cent in February, 1974. Dr Stuttaford says the area is "an egalitarian Conservative area."

Mr Stanley Smith, chairman of the Wisbech Labour group, said he does not feel that the Liberals have suffered greatly by the deal. "Like us, suppose they feel some disappointment. But I am confident that they are not aware of any great reaction against the Liberals in the constituency. If there were a general election now I think it would be a very close fight between the Liberals and the Conservatives."

In the election in October, 1974, the third that Mr Freud had fought in four years, the Liberals took 41.7 per cent of the poll. Dr Stuttaford took

36.6 per cent, giving the Liberals a majority of 2,685. Mr Sharp, the Liberal agent, said: "I have had a tremendous appeal and popularity in the Isle. I have had only three or four anonymous calls from people who said they would not vote Liberal again. I have had lots from people who wanted to make sure about postal votes or to say that David Steel had done the right thing."

The seat has never been a Labour hopeful. Its history before the Second World War was one of Liberal dominance and since the war it has been one of Conservative control.

Only time can really tell whether the Lib-Lab deal will be reason enough for the voters to change their minds. But with the anti-Labour record of the constituency, it is suspected that the Liberals may lose the seat, especially in view of the present small majority.

Bomb in van kills butcher

From a Staff Reporter

Belfast

A Roman Catholic butcher from the Irish Republic was killed yesterday and three of his colleagues were injured when a boobytrap bomb exploded in their van on the northern outskirts of Belfast.

He was Mr Larry Potter, aged 25, of Clones, Co. Monaghan.

Mr Potter and five other butchers had just got into their van to drive to work at a Belfast meat plant when a 2lb bomb attached to the drive shaft exploded.

The incident occurred at the end of a week which has seen a resurgence of violence by extreme "loyalists". Another victim of the continuing Provisional IRA campaign against locally recruited security forces was also killed yesterday. He was Mr David Graham, aged 32, a part-time corporal in the Ulster Defence Regiment, who was ambushed two weeks ago.

Still seriously ill in hospital is Karen Maxwell, aged 13, who was shot on Thursday night. Surgeons disclosed that her life had been saved by a St Christopher's medal which she wore around her neck. It deflected a bullet fired through the door of a house where she was baby-sitting. The attack is believed to have been the work of "loyalist" gunmen.

Rail executives cleared of fraud

Mr David Cobbett, aged 48, of The Grange, Srenall, York, and Mr Alexander Boal, of Kent Road, Harrogate, were acquitted yesterday at Glasgow Sheriff Court of defrauding British Rail of £144 in labour and material.

The Sheriff said that the Crown had failed to show that Mr Cobbett, formerly British Rail's Scottish general manager, and Mr Boal, formerly the region's architect, had acted dishonestly by using four senior staff during working hours to plan a central heating system for Mr Cobbett's Glasgow home.

Mr Cobbett is now general manager, Eastern Region, based at York, where Mr Boal also now works.

Exam papers 'leniently marked'

From Peter Godfrey

Oxford

Britain's education standards, although consistent, are not high enough to meet the needs of modern society, the annual conference of the Headmasters' Association was told yesterday.

Professor Jack Wrigley, Professor of Education at Reading University, said that an apparent improvement in public examination results was counteracted by more lenient marking.

"As more candidates enter for both CSE and GCE, the calibre is likely to drop slightly, and it is not surprising that such a change is not fully recognized by the examiners," he said.

He referred to an unpublished survey by the Schools Council, which, he said, indicated that the calibre of examination candidates fell slightly between 1968 and 1973, although those at CSE level achieved comparable grades and GCE candidates slightly higher ones in 1973.

A direct comparison could

not be strictly accurate, he added, but the research gave no evidence of an improvement in academic achievement.

Standards are not falling but are not good enough for the demands of modern society," he said. He saw the development of a yardstick to monitor educational levels and the preservation of the public examinations system as vital to the maintenance of standards. He hoped that standards might be enhanced by the present greater stability of the teaching force.

Mr Stuart MacLure, editor of *The Times Educational Supplement*, told the conference that economic factors linked education more closely with employment, but that industry had yet to challenge traditional educational priorities.

"It is a sobering thought that industry's own appreciation of the demands it makes on the young people who enter employment is that for one in three of them the job can be competently carried out with four weeks' training or less."

He also criticized the omission from the present debate on education of "a large minority of the teenage population, including those from immigrant or ethnic groups, for whom working or unemployment prospects make school seem even less relevant."

Senior teachers criticized. Senior teachers were accused yesterday of presenting shabby applications for headteacher jobs (the Press Association reports).

Sometimes their standard of writing was equivalent to that of an "impetuous sixteen-year-old," according to an article in *Education*, the journal of the Association of Education Committees. The writer, an education officer in London, said that up to 85 per cent of applicants for headships were poorly qualified.

The National Union of Teachers said: "There is no evidence to suggest that headmasters are less well qualified now."

Immigration low in poll issues

From Arthur Osman

Stechford

Mrs Thatcher discovered yesterday what most people on the ground have known for weeks, that immigration is not, and should not be, a focal issue in the Birmingham, Stechford, by-election. Voting takes place next Thursday.

She said that Mr Andrew Mackay, aged 27, the Conservative candidate, had been careful to emphasize that everything said on immigration was aimed at better race relations. She added: "We have nothing in common with the National Front, nothing whatsoever, and we believe that all people are equal before the law, with equal rights."

She reiterated official Conservative policy and said that during visits to a factory and shopping areas in the constituency and talks with dozens of people, only one person had raised the issue of immigration.

Last September Mr Mackay sent out 30,000 leaflets headed "Stop Immigration". The reasons he gave for doing so were "good race relations in the future, our weak economy, our overcrowded island, and our stretched social services."

He said many black people supported his call, which would not apply to immigrants who had offers of jobs in Britain. After the criticism this week in the Commons, he said: "I have been charged with issuing literature on immigration with facts and racial overtones. Nothing could be further from the facts."

Mr Mackay contends that immigration is second to the economy as an important issue, but there has been no evidence from him or anyone else.

Mrs Thatcher's experience is that of others who have talked to people in the streets. Most are preoccupied by prices.

Tories claim first signs of Liberal 'revolt'

Conservatives said yesterday that their success in a local by-election on Thursday in a Liberal stronghold was the first sign of revolt by members of that party against the Callaghan-Steel agreement.

A Conservative topped the poll in a ward of Wokingham District Council, where the first time since 1972. Until then Liberals had won every election and by-election in the ward.

Mr Christopher Poole, the local Tory agent, said: "This was the first reaction by the voters anywhere in the country to the deal between the Liberals and the Government."

He added that several Liberals had voted independent or stayed at home. "We even had one per cent the first time since 1972. Until the night before we came into our committee rooms to help us."

The result was: Mrs Kathleen Henderson (C) 642; Mrs Jean Roberts (L) 560; Mrs Anne Davidson (Ind) 240; Mr William Haxford (Lab) 235.

Mr Steel reviews his 'shadows'

By Michael Hatfield

While the Government and the Liberal Party continued their talks about the joint consultative committee between the two sides yesterday, the Conservative Party was busy in the country of a general election to settle the fundamental political issues.

The main attack came from Mr Whitelaw, deputy leader of the party, speaking in Cardiff last night. "The Liberal really believe that it is they who are stopping Mr Callaghan unleashing yet more socialism on Britain?" he asked.

"The only thing that is stopping him is the fact that they found himself without a stable majority in the House of Commons—and everyone knows it."

"With Liberal help he may be prepared to hold back his next batch of legislative proposals for a few months, but then only in the vain hope that he can gain some electoral advantage which will give him the power once more to carry on his socialist crusade."

While the Conservatives were venting their spleen, both the Labour and Liberal parties were in an ebullient mood last night. Mr Steel, leader of the Liberals, spent most of yesterday re-formulating what he describes as his "shadow administration", which he plans to announce tomorrow.

The Liberals are enjoying the enormous publicity that has attended them in the past week, and they lay great importance on the regular consultations they will have with the Government.

It is likely that a formal agreement on the subjects for consultation will be reached next week between Mr Steel and Mr Foot, Leader of the House of Commons and deputy leader of the Labour Party.

Mr Steel is to make a speech on Monday.

Mr Richard Wainwright, at present Liberal spokesman on trade and industry, said last night: "Those who question this Steel-Callaghan arrangement should ask themselves what use the system of total parliamentary control has been in recent years."

"It has tortured the country, and especially industry, with zig-zag government, producing continuous uncertainty instead of stability, and dividing the British people instead of uniting them. It has been a recipe for conflict."

While the Labour left wing was voicing its concern, there

was no evidence last night that its members on the party's national executive committee had secured sufficient names to get a special meeting of the committee to discuss Mr Callaghan's announcement last Wednesday.

Mr Mason, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said last night in his Barnsley constituency that the Government had not made any shadowy deals with anyone, and that "accusations that it has should be treated with contempt."

Mr Merlyn Rees, the Home Secretary, said in his constituency of Leeds, South, that the agreement involved no abandonment of principle. He would not be a party to a coalition or constituency agreement.

"The Liberals oppose us in all parts of the country, and particularly here in Leeds. We oppose them and will continue to do so. The arrangement at Westminster is a parliamentary agreement and not a party agreement."

Mr Heselgrave, Conservative spokesman on the environment, said last night: "The only contribution the Liberal Party has made this week is to give the Government time to complete the nationalization of the aircraft and shipbuilding industry, which a general election would have prevented. So much for the Liberal claim that their commitment is holding the march of socialism."

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Ban on Communists to be discussed in November

Continued from page 1

knows the difficulties of getting Communist-orientated views and Trotskyist views into line.

"This confirmed our view that the so-called pro-left candidate of Brother Best was organized and directed by the Communist Party as evidenced by the nominations and vote which he achieved. This is clear evidence to show that bodies operating outside the union were interfering directly with the election for general secretary, contrary to rule 23."

The report further states that those activities are ultra vires, and suggests that all members of the union should be informed of that decision and the reasons for it so that future elections are conducted strictly according to the rules. The committee's report was accepted by a 7 to 4 vote.

Mr Best, who has referred the allegations to his solicitor,

said last night: "I have no comment to make at this time."

Mr Ramelson told *The Times*: "It is a matter of fact that the Communist Party had anything to do with intervening or interfering in elections inside the electricians' union. Their only basis for that statement is the fact that they got a bigger vote than when he stood for the executive. This is only logical, because it was a national election."

"Not only was there no such decision taken, but there was no discussion about the issue as far as the Communist Party is concerned. I can make a categorical statement; the issue was never discussed, let alone directed."

Mr Ramelson claimed that the aim of the intervention was to "whip up an atmosphere of McCarthyite hysteria" to influence rank-and-file opinion in the months leading up to the

electricians' rules revision conference later this year, when branch demands to scrap the rules forbidding Communists to hold office will be discussed.

At the conference in Blackpool in November the rules will come under scrutiny, particularly the general election prohibition and the election of officials. Left-wing branches are pressing for the ban on Communists to be abolished, but the right-wing dominated executive is expected to oppose the move fiercely.

The confidential report states that the intervention was serious, and should be examined in the light of the history of the union.

In the High Court action in 1961, brought by Brothers Byrnes and Chapman against the Electricians' Union, it was established by the court "that not only was the Communist Party controlled by Communist Party and Communist Party, but it was so managed

in the service of the Communist Party of the United Kingdom and the ideas of the party."

Apart from the actual ballot, the committee estimated that the Communist Party machine operated within the union. In June 1955, Brother Scott, who at the time was general secretary, received a vote of 2,897 in a national election. In September 1956, when the Communist Party machine operated on his behalf, his national vote became 23,175.

In the words of Mr Justice Winn, "I find directly manifest the effect upon the electoral fortunes of several individuals produced directly by the decisions of the Communist Party representatives..." Among the individuals named by the judge was Brother Scott.

In the view of the lessons of the Byrnes case, it was reasonable to draw a parallel between the support given by the Communist Party to Brother Scott and that given to Brother Best.

Young men are turning back to sober suits

By Peter Hill

Young men are turning away from casual wear, like denim jeans and cheesecloth shirts, and are choosing instead sober, well-styled suits. That is the view of the Tie Manufacturers' Association, supported in part by the International Wool Secretariat.

Both organizations, of course, are closely involved with the more formal end of the clothing market, but import figures for Indian cheesecloth do seem to lend weight to their argument. Last year's summer stimulated the trade with India to a record of £7.6m. This year, after representations by Britain's shirtmakers (also on the more sober side of the business), imports are to be limited to £5.45m.

Mr Tony Gould, the International Wool Secretariat's marketing manager, suggests that when the general economy is in a slump, as it is now, and when people have less money, they prefer to spend what they can on a "decent suit."

Two Canaletto views sold for £110,000 each

By Geraldine Norman

Two Venetian views by Canaletto, belonging to Sir Christopher Beauchamp, were sold at Christie's yesterday for £110,000 apiece (estimate £50,000 to £70,000 each). The views are of the Grand Canal, Venice, from the Rialto Bridge, looking towards the St Mark's Basilica.

The views were bought by a buyer and the other to a German dealer. They are thought to have been executed for George Froster, who visited Venice in 1728 and who was on loan to the Card Museum, Norwich, from 1962 until 1975.

Bidding in Christie's Old Master sale was somewhat erratic, with a number of "out of the picture" offerings failing to find buyers, representing 17 per cent of the £984,700 total. "The Piazza San Marco, Venice," went to Colnaghi's at £40,000 (estimate £25,000 to £35,000) and Brod paid £25,000 for a "Bench Scene" by Jan van Goyen of 1734 (estimate £15,000 to £25,000). The van Goyen had been sold at Christie's in 1975 for £10,000, when it fetched £137,105.

ITV suggests fifth channel could be open instead

By a Staff Reporter

The Annan committee's central recommendation that a new open broadcasting authority should take responsibility for the proposed fourth television channel was unlikely to stand up to the light of day, Sir Geoffrey Cox said on behalf of independent television companies yesterday.

Sir Geoffrey, a director of Trident Television and Tyne Tees Television, said he would be surprised if the new authority came into being to run the fourth channel, although it is an idea which would make sense for a fifth channel.

Mrs Grace Wyndham Goldie, former head of BBC Television, praised the recommendation that the fourth channel should not go to independent television, which would have led to a lowering of BBC and commercial television standards.

Two Canaletto views sold for £110,000 each

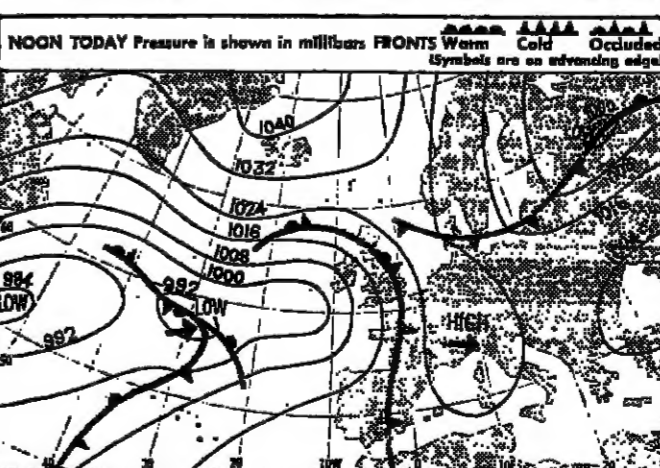
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Weather forecast and recordings



Today	Tomorrow
S un rises: 6.30 am S un sets: 7.24 pm M oon sets: 10.18 am	S un rises: 6.48 am S un sets: 7.25 pm M oon sets: 11.06 am
F irst Quarter: 7.54 pm to 6.18 am L ighting up: 7.54 pm to 6.18 am H igh water: London Bridge: 6.30 am, 6.49 pm, 6.58 pm, 7.12 pm, 7.21 pm, 7.31 pm, 7.41 pm, 7.51 pm, 8.01 pm, 8.11 pm, 8.21 pm, 8.31 pm, 8.41 pm, 8.51 pm, 9.01 pm, 9.11 pm, 9.21 pm, 9.31 pm, 9.41 pm, 9.51 pm, 10.01 pm, 10.11 pm, 10.21 pm, 10.31 pm, 10.41 pm, 10.51 pm, 11.01 pm, 11.11 pm, 11.21 pm, 11.31 pm, 11.41 pm, 11.51 pm, 12.01 pm, 12.11 pm, 12.21 pm, 12.31 pm, 12.41 pm, 12.51 pm, 1.01 pm, 1.11 pm, 1.21 pm, 1.31 pm, 1.41 pm, 1.51 pm, 2.01 pm, 2.11 pm, 2.21 pm, 2.31 pm, 2.41 pm, 2.51 pm, 3.01 pm, 3.11 pm, 3.21 pm, 3.31 pm, 3.41 pm, 3.51 pm, 4.01 pm, 4.11 pm, 4.21 pm, 4.31 pm, 4.41 pm, 4.51 pm, 5.01 pm, 5.11 pm, 5.21 pm, 5.31 pm, 5.41 pm, 5.51 pm, 6.01 pm, 6.11 pm, 6.21 pm, 6.31 pm, 6.41 pm, 6.51 pm, 7.01 pm, 7.11 pm, 7.21 pm, 7.31 pm, 7.41 pm, 7.51 pm, 8.01 pm, 8.11 pm, 8.21 pm, 8.31 pm, 8.41 pm, 8.51 pm, 9.01 pm, 9.11 pm, 9.21 pm, 9.31 pm, 9.41 pm, 9.51 pm, 10.01 pm, 10.11 pm, 10.21 pm, 10.31 pm, 10.41 pm, 10.51 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HOME NEWS

Virus deaths
rise to 16 at
old people's
home

Our Correspondent
wrote upon Tyne
The death toll at Earsdon
range old people's home, in
one day, but some officials
expressed the hope that the
virus responsible may
be waning. The latest
victim, a man aged 91, was one
of six residents of the home in
Hankenshaw said on Thursday
he had the same symptoms
as the nine women and
men who have died since
March 11.

Yesterday, however, the
condition of one person was
said to have improved. Mr Sidney
Wilkinson, director of social
services for North Tyneside
Council, said: "The four people
remain sufficiently ill to give
us cause for concern but it
may now be coming to an
end."

Seven of the original 14
members of staff at the home
are showing signs of the virus
symptoms, including leg, general
aches, sickness, dizziness and
headaches, but Mr Wilkinson
said that their condition was
improving. He said the virus
was not a cause for concern.
Mr Bryan Shaw, area medical
officer of health, said they
needed to receive information
about the virus from the
regional public health laboratory
on Tuesday.

Referring to the 12 deaths in
February at another council
home, The Willows, at North
Shields, Dr Shaw added: "It
now appears that we have two
different situations. At The
Willows, while tests are not yet
complete, there are strong
indications that there is no
common source connected with
the deaths." His Medical Correspondent
writes: "In contrast to bacterial
diseases such as typhoid or
diphtheria, there is no simple,
rapid laboratory test for con-
firmation of the diagnosis in
most virus illnesses. Culture of
viruses takes much longer than
growing bacteria in the labora-
tory and tests for antibodies
are also less practicable."

Science report, page 14

Minister urged to
ban concrete
hardening agent

A Staff Reporter
The Government is under
pressure to prohibit the use of
calcium chloride in the building
industry after the discovery of
sulfur in prestressed concrete
columns and beams. The sub-
stance is used as a hardening
agent in concrete.
Earlier this week the Govern-
ment urged owners of more
than 350 buildings in Britain,
mainly schools and offices,
which incorporated a particular
type of prestressed concrete
construction to carry out
checks.
Mr Robert Hughes, Labour
Minister for the Environment,
said: "The Government is
convinced that the use of
calcium chloride in the building
industry is a health hazard and
is taking steps to ban its use."

Tea companies 'want to
raise prices by 27p a lb'

Two tea companies wanted
to raise prices by 27p a pound,
said Robert Watkinson, a
director of Cadbury Schweppes,
said yesterday. They would
probably have to raise prices
more than 20p a pound because
of the rising cost of tea.
Mr Watkinson, whose com-
pany packs Tiphoo tea, said
that when prices rose so
quickly a freeze of the type
imposed by the Government
in its new price control plans
could be disastrous. "The best
commercial policy for those
companies would be to raise
prices," he said.
He was speaking after the Food
and Drink Industries Council,
in which delegates had con-
sidered the investigations

Vehicle tolls opposed

Proposals in a West York-
shire County Council report
that motorists should be
charged a tax to drive into the
streets of Leeds and Bradford
are coming under attack from
Leeds and Bradford Road
Users' Group.
The council is criticized for
handing the report, for
though it is described as a

Hosenball plea opened in Appeal Court

Mr Stewart Tendler
an Affairs Reporter
Mr Mark Hosenball, the
American journalist facing de-
portation on grounds of
security, yesterday began a
fresh challenge in the courts
by the decision by Mr Rees, the
Home Secretary.
Last week three High Court
judges refused an application
to overturn the Home Secre-
tary's decision, and yesterday
Mr Hosenball began an appeal
against that refusal in the
Court of Appeal before Lord
Denning, Master of the Rolls,
and two other judges.
Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC,
or Mr Hosenball, told the
court that the case was a classic
example of "the fundamental



An Iron-Age meal being served beside the unfinished communal round house.

Living as in
300 BC, for
television

From Kenneth Gosling

It was quiet on the "secret"
Iron Age site in Dorset yester-
day, until 60 press and televi-
sion people arrived to question
the six couples and three chil-
dren who are going to have to
survive for 12 months in some-
thing as near the original settle-
ment of 300 BC as human
ingeniousness and research have
been able to devise.
The women were preparing
for the pot three chickens
freshly slaughtered from their
henhouse on stilts. The children
were playing in the mud—and
up to the cameras—and the

men were surveying the great
round house, where all the
couples will eventually live.
Tents are still being used.
The project was devised by a
BBC television producer, Mr
John Percival. Volunteers,
who are being paid £20 a week,
were sought a year ago, and
20 of them "auditioned" on a
site in Hampshire last summer.
All have had to learn the new
skills that will be needed to
keep them alive without our
side help for the next year.
Mr Percival admitted yester-
day that not everything had
gone according to schedule.
The round house will not be
ready for three more weeks.
We had to pause the measure-
ments," he said, "rather
than use a twentieth-century
tape measure, and consequently
we have a house that will not
keep the water out."
Animals known to have lived

in the Iron Age are nearly all
on the site: special breeds of
pigs, sheep, goats, chickens and
cattle. The volunteers will
grow their crops and vegeta-
bles; they will hunt for game
with knives and bows and
arrows.
For emergencies, there is a
telephone a mile and a half
from the site; otherwise they
will be completely "isolated".
Trying to ignore the cameras
that will eventually turn the
experience into seven television
programmes.
Sarah Rockliff, a teacher
from Norfolk, whose husband,
John, will be a builder until he
learns blacksmithing for the
project, said: "We are very
happy with twentieth-century
life, and in no way are we
escaping from it." After the
first few days of living rough,
the only thing she wanted was
the comfort of an armchair.

Universities 'have failed to
provide for industry'

By Annabel Ferriman of The
Times Higher Education
Supplement

Universities will have to pro-
duce more technologically
educated graduates if the per-
formance of British industry is
to improve, according to a docu-
ment launched yesterday by a
group of Labour Party indus-
trialists.
"Britain's higher educational
institutions, unlike those in
France and Germany, have
failed to provide industry with
ambitious and able graduates
with qualifications which are
predominantly scientific and
technical. Our generalists par-
excellence are the Oxford
classics and great men," it says.

The document was produced
by a working party of the 1972
Industry Group, a 100-strong
group of Labour Party members
in industry and commerce.
Members of the working party,
which was headed by Sir Sig-
mund Sternberg, were advised
by academics, including Pro-
fessor Bryan Archer of the
Royal College of Art, Lord
Cromwell-Hunt, Fellow of Exeter
College, Oxford, Dr Edward
Edwards, vice-chancellor of
Bradford University, and Lord
Houghton of Sowerby.

It recommends government-
sponsored bursaries for

students going into courses
relevant to industry and the
reshaping of many science and
engineering courses so that they
are more attuned to producing
the sort of graduate needed by
industry.

Lord Brown, former chair-
man of the Glacier Metal Com-
pany and one of the authors of
the report, introducing the
document yesterday, said that
the University Grants Com-
mittee would have to persuade
universities to change the
emphasis of their courses away
from non-vocational work and
set up new courses in industrial
technology.

Industry would also have to
change its pay structure for
technologists and engineers so
that it was more competitive
with the public sector, take a
regular number of graduates
yearly and be prepared to pro-
mote technologists and produc-
tion managers to the board room.

To ensure enough well
qualified technicians, industry
should also increase the amount
of day release. Business
schools were criticised for not
sending enough graduates into
industry and for having too
many academic courses.
Education and Industry, a man-
ifesto for action (The 1972 Industry
Group, 14 Queens Court, Queens-
way, London).

Boy found
hanged
'was bullied'

A pupil found hanged at
Millfield School, Somerset, had
been bullied, Mr J. Fenton
Rutter, the East Somerset
coroner, was told yesterday.
Mehran Sarkeshik, aged 13, an
Iranian, was found hanging from
a judo belt attached to
two beams in a changing room.
It was stated.
Mr Rutter decided there was
insufficient evidence to say that
the boy, in his first term at the
school, where boarders' fees
are nearly £3,000 a year, took
his own life and recorded an
open verdict.

Mr Rutter said: "We have
heard a lot of evidence of bullying
and that history will no
doubt be investigated by the
school." Crime had been elimi-
nated and death could have
been caused in one of two ways.
"Either he was playing about
with the belt, or he may have
been trying to draw attention
to himself without expecting to
be strangled; or it is possible
he may have taken his life
deliberately." He could not
decide whether it was an acci-
dent or deliberate.

Earlier, Police-constable
Howard Horsfall said the boy
had been bullied. Mr Rutter
said: "According to one witness
the deceased was afraid
someone was going to fight him
that night."

Police-constable Horsfall
said: "One of the students did
mention that he had heard this
lad had been threatened."

Mr Kenneth Harries, a house-
master, said the boy, of Mir-
dam Avenue, Teheran, was
quiet, withdrawn and had
difficulty with the language. He
had previously spoken to a boy
of 15, said to have been the
bully, about "bullying and
being nasty". The coroner
asked that the boy's name
should not be published.

Mr Roger Stokes, represent-
ing the dead boy's relatives,
said it was the understanding
that the boy had been bullied
by a group of pupils at the
school. "Crime had been elimi-
nated and death could have
been caused in one of two ways."

Mr Harries replied: "That is
a general comment reached in
the school but it is based on
hearsay. One should put things
into perspective. Mehran was
very withdrawn and retiring
and did not like to join in
school activities to any great
extent."

"He was very much a loner
and I found it very difficult
to talk to him and to get spec-
ific details of anything out of
him. I had been very con-
cerned about his welfare and
felt that the action which I
took at various stages would
have been quite sufficient with
any normal boy."

Mr Colin Atkinson, the Head-
master of Millfield, said later
that the incident had been
thoroughly investigated and
there was no real problem with
bullying. The evidence was con-
sistent with teasing and
bullying.

Mehran Sarkeshik, with other
boys, had been the 15-year-
old, who was not very bright.
The 15-year-old had tried to get
his own back by bullying
Sarkeshik. There were 1,130
pupils at Millfield, 42 of them
Iranian.

'Scuffle' dispute
at Harrods
The Advisory, Conciliation
and Arbitration Service was
asked to intervene in a dispute
over an alleged "scuffle" at
Harrods, the department store
in Knightsbridge, London.
Reports of the incident, in-
volving a porter and one of
the store's security staff, will
be discussed on Monday by
representatives of management
and of the Union of Shop, Dis-
tributive and Allied Workers.

WEST EUROPE

Cut-price butter plan will barely
cover increase British must
expect to pay under EEC rules

From David Cross
Brussels, March 25

The European Community is
considering offering some of its
surplus butter for sale in
member countries like Britain
at special cut-price prices as part
of this year's farm price review.
The idea is expected to be
discussed by ministers of agri-
culture of the Nine during a
two or three-day session which
opened here today. They are
trying to meet their customary
April 1 deadline for fixing agri-
cultural prices for the coming
crop season.

But with Belgium and Holland
facing general elections during
the next few weeks and the
British and West Germans in
no particular hurry to see
prices of butter, the idea is
unlikely to be put into effect.
Only the French and the
Irish, with powerful farm
lobbies, are keen to reach an
agreement by the end of the
month.

Any cut-price butter sales
approved by the Community
would probably be introduced for
a two-month period at the end
of the year to clear up to 100,000
tons of the present 170,000 ton
surplus. The butter would be
sold at a cut of about 14p to
15p a lb off the present price
in Britain of 56p a lb.

This saving would just about
offset the 16p a lb increase
likely to take place in Britain
as a result of final price adjust-
ments towards the general EEC

level under the country's terms
of accession to the Community.
This year's farm price review
and possible changes in the
value of the so-called green
pound in which British agricul-
tural prices are calculated.
Any such scheme would be
variously welcomed by the British
Government. After the recent
sale of subsidized butter to the
Soviet Union, Mr John Silkin,
the Minister of Agriculture,
suggested that EEC surpluses
should be made available to
consumers within the Com-
munity.

The British are also seeking a
price freeze for dairy products
during this year's review, but
this wish is less likely to be
granted in response to strong
pressure, in particular from the
Belgians. Mr Gundelach, the
European Commissioner for
Agriculture, is understood to be
considering improving his
original offer of a 3 per cent
rise in the autumn.

This would take the form of
an immediate increase of 3 per
cent and a further 2 per cent
rise in mid-September. How-
ever, part of the initial rise
would be offset by getting dairy
farmers to pay a 2 per cent tax
on their products from April 1.
To show their displeasure at the
Commission's original
modest offer, about 40 British
dairy farmers waving banners
demonstrated outside today's
meeting. Mr Albert Lavenex,
the Belgian Minister of Agriculture,
assured them of his support
personally.

Mr Gundelach is also re-
ported to be considering a modest
improvement in other sections
of this year's farm price pro-
posals which would all-round
rise to about 4.5 per cent. But
the key to final settlement will
be an agreement on the level of
"green" currency rates.

Most countries are objecting
to the Commission's original
proposals on this point either
because they would cut the
revenue of their farmers (Bel-
gium, Ireland and the Nether-
lands) or because they would
give a further boost to food
prices in the shops (principally
the British).

Today's deliberations opened
with an inconclusive discussion
of fishing rights for EEC fish-
ermen off the coast of Ireland.
The British are objecting to
new proposals tabled by the
Commission which would drasti-
cally reduce their fleet's activi-
ties off the north-west and south
coasts of the Republic of Ireland.

However, the Community is
under considerable pressure to
reach a settlement quickly as
the Irish are threatening to in-
troduce unilateral controls on
the size of vessels allowed to
operate in their waters. Dublin
has twice postponed a decision
on the measures, which were
originally due to take effect at
the beginning of the month,
and is fast running out of
patience with its Community
partners.

European unions predict unrest

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The new EEC summit came
under heavy fire from the Euro-
pean Trade Union Confedera-
tion yesterday over the failure
of member governments to pro-
mote economic growth and cur-
b unemployment. Ministers were
warned of a "catastrophic" and
possible collapse of incomes
policies if concrete, political
proposals were not forthcoming.

The European TUC said in
an unusually strongly worded
statement that on conservative
grounds, the EEC summit was
likely to be a disaster. Any
union people in the nine Com-
munity countries were out of
work, half of them being under
25. Their numbers would in-
crease substantially if the
Commission's growth forecast
for 1977 of 3.5 per cent was
not met, lower than last year's
was allowed to become a
reality.

The unions argued: "Clearly,
the sort of policies which have
been followed up till now have
been a failure. The EEC sum-
mit must take the necessary
decisions to break out of that
vicious cycle."

The unions said they had
repeatedly demonstrated will-
ingness to promote stability by
helping the government to im-
plement its bargaining policy.
"On the other hand, we have
already become victims of the
social unrest in some of the
Community states. It will not
be easy for trade unions in the
future to pursue this stability-
conscious wage policy in view

of the persistently high infla-
tion rates, and the fact that no
concrete measures have been
taken to improve the situation
can be established."

Mr Len Murray, General Sec-
retary of the British TUC, said
economic growth was the key to
everything else. "There can be
no doing all that is needed to
curb inflation alone which can
provide higher living standards.
The absence of economic
growth can only make the
economic, industrial and social
debate a zero sum game. It can
do nothing to strengthen our
manufacturing or improve our
public services."

The "wider vision" of a bet-
ter and more productive
industrial society would be of
interest to President Carter and
other world leaders when they
met in London in May, and they
should be given an explanation
of plans for closer involvement
of unions in decision making at
all levels in the economy.

"I am sure the development
of industrial democracy is as
vital to them as it is to us. In
countries which have not seen
such developments as in those of
the northern part of Europe that
have introduced such imaginat-
ive new relationships in recent
years."

Nato asked
for ruling
on Awacs

From David Cross
Brussels, March 25

Nato governments came under
strong British pressure today
to decide whether to set up an
airborne early warning system
(Awacs) for the alliance.

Mr Fred Mulley, the British
Defence Secretary, told his col-
leagues at a special meeting
here that they were getting very
close to a final decision. Britain
had with difficulty continued
to fund a possible alternative
national early warning system
based on Nimrod reconnaissance
aircraft and now wanted to
know whether this should be
cancelled in favour of the col-
lective Nato scheme.

He pointed out that a final
decision to buy 27 Boeing 707
aircraft equipped with sophis-
ticated radar equipment at a cost
of about £2,400m (about
£1,400m) had been postponed a
number of times. The latest
deadline set by the British was
April 1.

Other ministers reaffirmed
their general support for the
scheme but the West Germans,
in particular, asked for more
time to work out cost-sharing
arrangements. They object to
contributing some 25 per cent
of the total cost on the ground
that funds of this scale are
already committed to other
defence projects.

The Americans, who have also
been pressing for a swift deci-
sion, today agreed to increase
their share of the costs. But it
was unclear immediately
whether this offer was suffi-
ciently generous to satisfy Bonn.

Gaullists make M Chirac's
triumph complete

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, March 25

M Jacques Chirac, the Presi-
dent of the Gaullist Assemblée,
was elected Mayor of Paris
today by 67 votes to 40
for the communist candidate M
Henri Flobin, at the first meet-
ing of the city council.

Mr Chirac's triumph was a
foregone conclusion. The only
question had been whether it
would be complete or not.
Yesterday, M Michel d'Ornano,
the Minister for Industry who
had been his opponent at the
polls, came to the council to
vote for the Gaullist leader.

The parties of the Govern-
ment majority thus gave a
demonstration of new found
unity in the capital where they
had been most bitterly divided
in the recent municipal elec-
tions campaign. This should
help to pave the way for a
reconciliation between Presi-
dent Giscard d'Estaing and the
new Mayor of the capital.

Mr Chirac had staked his
political future on the success
of his surprise candidature
against the Government's nomi-
nee, M d'Ornano. He was visibly
moved by the solemnity of the
occasion when he took posses-
sion of his seat, and made his
inaugural speech, devoted exclu-
sively to an eulogy of his
predecessor, the last President
of the Paris Council, Dr Bern-
ard Lafay.

Then, after taking over
his new office, the largest
room of the Paris City Hall,
the former Prefect of the capital,
M Jean Tardieu, the new
Mayor, accompanied the repre-
sentative of the central Govern-
ment through the gilded
doors and down the staircase,
where a Republican Guard in
full dress with drawn swords,
to a waiting car. It was the

M. Chirac making his
inaugural speech yesterday.

symbolic close of six centuries
of state tutelage over the city.
M Chirac intends to surround
himself with a strong team. His
first deputy responsible for
the finance will be M Christian
d'Ale, who has been in
control of the budget of the
capital for 12 years. Mr Maurice
Dublet, who was Prefect for
nine years, will be one of his
closest advisers, and M Con-
ve de Murville, the former Prime
Minister, will be the city's
"delegate for international
affairs."

Surprise at
Areliza
decision to
resign

From Our Own Correspondent
Madrid, March 25

Señor José María Areliza, the
former Spanish Foreign Minis-
ter and vice-president of the
Popular Party, has resigned from
the party and says he will
not contest the general election,
it was learnt here today.
The announcement took polit-
ical circles by surprise, particu-
larly as the Popular Party forms
part of the Democratic Centre,
a coalition of liberal, social
democratic and some Christian
democratic forces that is con-
sidered to have good electoral
chances.

The resignation was appar-
ently brought on by growing
conflict within the Popular
Party and strained relations be-
tween Señor Suárez, the Prime
Minister, and Señor Areliza. But
Señor Areliza made no mention
of this in his letter of resigna-
tion, saying he was not acting
against anyone or anything.

Señor Areliza and Señor Pi-
Cabinillas, the party's presi-
dent, a former Information Min-
ister, saw the Prime Minister
on Wednesday. The resignation
of Señor Areliza is expected to
speed up Señor Suárez's own
decision on whether to fight the
election and, if so, under what
banner.

The exact political colouring
of the Prime Minister is still a
mystery: he has been careful
not to align himself with any
particular group. His years
spent with the National Move-
ment, the only legal political
organisation under General
Franco, clearly put him on the
right, but since he took office
in July his political line has
been directed towards the
centre.

Now that Señor Areliza has
resigned, Señor Suárez may de-
cide to focus on the centre
forces, particularly as the other
so-called centre alliance, the
neo-Francoist Popular Alliance,
headed by Señor Manuel Fraga
Iribarne, the Interior Minister,
in the Government, is
gaining ground all the time.

The resignation is the second
this month by an important and
respected politician. Earlier,
Señor José María Gil Robles,
the veteran Christian Demo-
cratic leader, resigned to make
possible the formation of a big
Christian democratic party. This
new party, the Christi-
an Democratic Federation, will be
constituted formally on Sunday
and will stand on its own in the
election.

Dr Soares
shuffles
his Cabinet

Lisbon, March 25.—Dr Soares,
Portuguese Prime Minister,
today reshuffled his minority
Socialist Government, naming
three new ministers and dis-
missing one. Señor Francisco
Marcelo Curto is replaced as
Minister of Labour by his
deputy, Senhor Maldonado
Goncalves.

Señor Alfredo Nobre da
Costa takes over the Industry
and Technology portfolio from
Dr Antonio Sousa Gomes, who
remains as Minister of Econo-
mic Coordination and Planning.
Professor Alois Pinto is
named Minister of Commerce
and Tourism, a portfolio pre-
viously held by Dr Antonio
Barreto, who retains his other
job as Minister of Agriculture
and Fisheries.

The new Manuel Alegre, who
was the Secretary of State
(Deputy Minister) for Informa-
tion, has become Adviser on
Political Affairs to the Prime
Minister, a new post with
deputy ministerial status. Dr
Jose Maria Roque Lino takes
over the Information job.

Meanwhile, it was announced
that Lieutenant-Colonel Jose
Alberto Loureiro dos Santos,
who played a leading role in
the overthrow of General Vasco
Goncalves's left-wing govern-
ment in 1976, has been made
Deputy Chief of Staff, a post
vacant since the dismissal of
former General Spínola, be-
lieved precipitate the April 1974
revolution.—Reuter and Agence
France-Press.

Editor on birth
control charge
Madrid, March 25.—Señor
Juan Luis Cebrian, editor of
El Pais, has been charged with
publishing prohibited informa-
tion on contraception. The
newspaper has been running a
series on birth control that was
published earlier in a colour
supplement of The Sunday
Times.

Señor Cebrian faces a maxi-
mum sentence of six months'
imprisonment and a fine of up
to £1,000. Feminists have been
demanding free distribution of
contraceptives.

'Public enemy No 1' gets
20-year jail sentence

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 25

Jean-Charles Willquet, aged
32, described by the police as
"public enemy No 1", who
committed 21 armed robberies
and holdups in three years, was
sentenced by the Paris assize
court today to 20 years' im-
prisonment.

His wife, Martine, a frequent
accomplice to his crimes, was
given five years. Seven accomp-
lices were jailed for between
12 and five years.

Court reporters were sur-
prised when the public prose-
cutor, called for only 20 years,
a show of relative indulgence
unusual on his part.
He had not been able, he
said, to bring home a call
for the death penalty, alluding
to cases which revolted public

opinion even more than hold-
ups, but were not sanctioned
by death. The recent Troyes
trial in which Patrick Henry
was jailed for life for kid-
napping and murdering a child
was on his mind.

He is also to be tried for
allegedly kidnapping two
judges in an escape attempt.

Police find terrorist
cache in Rome

Rome, March 25.—The police
have found guns and explo-
sives in a flat believed to be
a terrorist hideout close to
the spot in the Trastevere dis-
trict of Rome where two police-
men were shot dead two days
ago.—Reuter.

Danish printers to defy
labour court ruling

From Our Correspondent
Copenhagen, March 25

Printers at the Berlingske
publishing house, Denmark's
biggest newspaper publishers,
decided today to defy a labour
court and stay on strike until
a negotiated settlement is
reached on their grievances.
Berlingske insists that they re-
turn to work before any nego-
tiations can start.

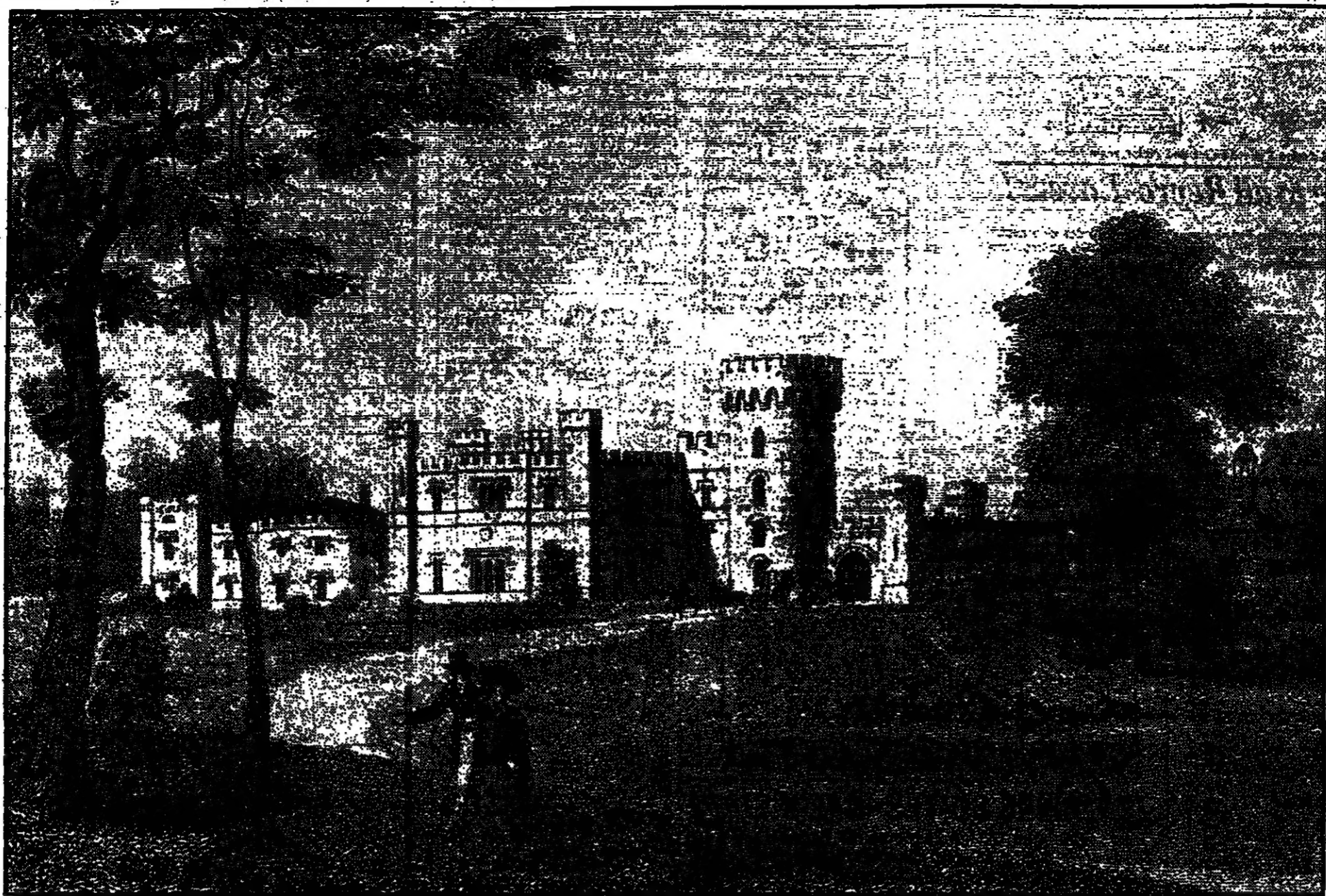
The labour court yesterday
fined the 1,000 printers £50
each and for the second time
ordered them to go back to
work. The dispute has stopped
publication of the national
dailies Berlingske Tidende and
BT since January 30.

Sympathy strikes today stop-
ped publication of five Danish
newspapers, including the main
competitors to the Berlingske

group, Politiken, and Ekstra
Bladet. Work was also stopped
at a number of printing houses.
The labour court imposed
fines amounting to £17,500 on
two printing unions for their
role in the conflict. These fines
were considerably less than the
£100,000 or more which most
union officials had expected.

The £50 fine on each of the
Berlingske printers is also con-
sidered very lenient. The union
had estimated it, from ex-
perience of past cases, to be
nearly £400.

The relative smallness of the
f



After the fall

by Jane Austen and Another

The next morning brought a great many visitors. It was the way of the place always to call on Mrs. Edwards the morning after a ball, and this neighbourly inclination was increased in the present instance by a general spirit of curiosity on Emma's account, as everybody wanted to look at the girl who had been admired the night before by Lord Osborne. Many were the eyes, and various the degrees of approbation with which she was examined. Some saw no fault, and some no beauty. With some her brown skin was the annihilation of every grace, and others could never be persuaded that she was half so handsome as Elizabeth Watson had been 10 years ago. The morning passed quickly away in discussing the merits of the ball with all this succession of company, and Emma was at once acquainted by finding it two o'clock, and considering that she had heard nothing of her father's chair. After this discovery she had walked to the window to examine the street, and was on the point of asking leave to ring the bell and make inquiries, when the light sound of a carriage driving up to the door set her heart at ease. She stepped up to the window again, but instead of the convenient though very unsmart family equipage perceived a neat curricule. Mr. Musgrave was shortly afterwards announced, and Mrs. Edwards put on her best face look at the coach. Not at all dismayed by her charming air, he paid his compliments to each of the ladies with no unbecoming ease, and continuing to address Emma presented her a note, which he had the honour of bringing from her sister, but to which he must observe a verbal postscript from himself would be requisite.

The note, which Emma was beginning to read rather before Mrs. Edwards had entreated her to use no ceremony, contained a few lines from Elizabeth impugning that their father, in consequence of being unusually well, had taken the sudden resolution of attending the visitation that day, and that as his road lay quite wide from Dorset, it was impossible for her to come home till the following morning, unless she could send her carriage, which she hardly to be expected, or she could meet with any chance conveyance, or did not mind walking so far. She had scarcely run her eye through the whole, before she found herself obliged to hurry to Tom Musgrave's further account.

"I received that note from the fair hands of Miss Watson only 10 minutes ago," said he. "I met her in the village of Stanton, whither my good stars prompted me to turn my horse's head. She was at that moment in quest of a person to employ on the errand, and I was fortunate enough to convince her that she could not find a more willing or speedy messenger than myself. Remember, I say nothing of my disinterestedness. My reward is to be the indulgence of conveying you to Stanton in my curricule. Though they are not written down, I bring your sister's orders for the same."

Emma felt distressed; she did not like the proposal, she did not wish to be on terms of intimacy with the proposer, and yet, fearful of encroaching on the Edwards, as well as wishing to go home herself, she was at a loss how entirely to decline what he offered. Mrs. Edwards continued silent, either not understanding the case, or waiting to see how the young lady's inclination lay. Emma thanked him, but professed herself very unwilling to give him so much trouble. "The trouble was of course honour, pleasure, delight—what had he or his horses to do?" Still she hesitated. "She believed she must beg leave to decline his assistance—she was rather afraid of the sort of carriage the distance was entirely alone, it was her wish to return home to dinner. The plan was warmly opposed by her visitor—"

"I cannot suffer it, indeed. I must not be deprived of the happiness of escorting you. I assure you there is not a possibility of fear with my horses. You might guide them yourself. Your sisters all know how quiet they are; they have none of them the smallest scruple in trusting themselves with me, even on a racecourse. Believe me," added he, lowering his voice, "you are quite safe—the danger is only mine."

Emma was not more disposed to oblige him for all this.

"And as to Mrs. Edwards' carriage being used the day after a ball, it is a thing, quite out of rule. I assure you, never heard of before, the old coachman will look as black as his horses—won't he, Miss Edwards?"

No notice was taken. The ladies were silently firm, and the gentleman found himself obliged to submit.

"What a famous ball we had last night!" he cried, after a short pause. "How long did you keep it up after the Osbornes and I went away?"

"We had two dances more."

"It is making it too much of a fatigue, I think, to stay so late. I suppose your set was not very full?"

"Yes, quite as full as ever, except the Osbornes. There seemed no vacancy anywhere, and everybody danced with uncommon spirit to the last."

Emma said this, though against her conscience. I might have looked in upon you again, if I had been aware of as much, for I am rather fond of dancing than not. Miss Osborne is a charming girl, is not she?"

"I do not think her handsome," replied Emma, to whom all this was chiefly addressed.

"Perhaps she is not critically handsome, but her manners are delightful. And Fanny Carr is a most interesting little creature. You can imagine nothing more naive or piquant; and what do you think of Lord Osborne, Miss Watson?"

"That he would be handsome even though he were not a lord, and, perhaps, better bred; more dextrous of pleasing, and showing himself pleased in a right place."

"Upon my word, you are severe, upon my friend! I assure you Lord Osborne is a very good fellow. Perhaps I might be able to win a more favourable opinion of poor Osborne."

Emma gave him no encouragement, and he was obliged to keep his friend's secret. He was also obliged to put an end to his visit, for Mrs. Edwards having ordered her carriage, there was no time to be lost on Emma's side in preparing for it. Miss Edwards accompanied her home, but as it was dinner-time at Stanton, stayed with them only a few minutes.

"Now my dear Emma,"

said Miss Watson, as soon as they were alone "you must talk to me all the rest of the day without stopping, or I shall not be satisfied. But first of all, I shall bring in the dinner. Poor thing! You will not dine as you did yesterday; for we have nothing but some fried beef. How nice Mary Edwards looks in her new pelisse! And now tell me how you like them all, and what I am to say to Sam. I have begun my letter; Jack Stokes is to call for it tomorrow, for his uncle is going within a mile of Gildford next day."

Nanny brought in the dinner.

"We will wait upon ourselves," continued Elizabeth, "and then we shall lose no time. And so you would not come home with Tom Musgrave?"

"No. You had said so much against him that I could not wish either for the obligation or the intimacy which the use of his carriage must have created. I should not even have liked the appearance of it."

"You did very right; though I wonder at your forbearance, and I do not think I could have done it myself. He seemed so eager to fetch you that I could not say no, though it rather went against me to be throwing you together, so well as I knew his tricks; but I did long to see you, and it was a clever way of getting you home, besides, it would do to be too nice. Nobody could have thought of the Edwards letting you have their coach, after the horses being out so late. But what am I to say to Sam?"

"If you are guided by me you will not encourage him to think of Miss Edwards. The father is decidedly against him, the mother shows him no favour, and I doubt his having any interest with Mary. She danced twice with Captain Rueter, and I think shows him in general as much encouragement as is consistent with her disposition and the circumstances she is placed in. She once mentioned Sam, and certainly with a little confusion—but that was perhaps merely owing to the consciousness of his liking her, which may very probably have come to her knowledge."

"Oh! dear, yes—she has heard enough of that from us all. Poor Sam! He is out of luck, as well as other people. For the life of me, Emma, I cannot help feeling for those that are crossed in love. Well, now begin, and give me an account of everything as it happened."

Emma obeyed her, and Elizabeth listened with very little interruption till she heard of Mr. Howard as a partner.

Dance with Mr. Howard. Good heavens! You don't say so! Why, he is quite one of the great and grand ones. Did you not find him very high?"

"His manners are of a kind to give me much more ease and confidence than Tom Musgrave's."

"Well, go on. I should have been frightened out of my wits to have had anything to do with the Osbornes set."

Emma concluded her narrative.

"And so you really did not dance with Tom Musgrave at all? But you must have liked him—you must have been struck with him altogether."

"I do not like him, Elizabeth. I allow his person and air to be good; and that his manner to a certain point—his address rather—is pleasing. But I see nothing else to admire in him. On the contrary, he seems very vain, very conceited, absurdly anxious for distinction, and absolutely contemptible in some of the measures he takes for being so. There is a ridiculousness about him that exasperates me; but his company gives me no other agreeable emotion."

"My dearest Emma! You are like nobody else in the world. It is well Margaret is not by. You do not offend me though I hardly know how to believe you; but Margaret would never forgive such words."

"I wish Margaret could have heard him profess his ignorance of her being out of the country; he declared it seemed only two days since he had seen her."

"Aye, that is just like him; and yet this is the man she will fancy so desperately in love with her. He is a favourite of mine, as you well know, Emma, but you must think him agreeable. Can you lay your hand on your heart, and say you do not?"

"Indeed I can, both hands; and spread to their widest extent."

"I should like to know the man you do think agreeable."

"His name is Howard."

"Howard! Dear me! I cannot think of him but as playing cards with Lady Osborne, and looking proud. I must own, however, that it is a relief to me to find you can speak as you do of Tom Musgrave; my heart did misgive me that you would like him too well. You talked so stoutly beforehand, that I was sadly afraid your brag would be punished. I only hope it will last, and that he will not come on to pay you much attention; it is a hard thing for a woman to stand against the flattering ways of a man when he is bent on pleasing her."

As their quietly sociable little meal concluded, Miss Watson could not help observing how comfortably it had passed.

"It is so delightful to me," said she, "to have things going on in peace and good humour. Nobody can tell how much I hate quarrelling. Now, though we have had nothing but fried beef, how good it has seemed. I wish everybody were as easily satisfied as you; but poor Margaret is very snappish, and Penelope owns she would rather have quarrelling going on than nothing at all."

Mr. Watson returned in the evening not the worse for the exertion of the day, and consequently pleased with what he had done and glad to talk of it over his own fireside. Emma had not foreseen any interest to herself in the occurrences

of a visitation; but when she heard Mr. Howard spoken of as the preacher, and as having given them an excellent sermon, she could not help listening with a quicker ear.

"I do not know when I have heard a discourse more to my mind," continued Mr. Watson, "or one better delivered. He reads extremely well, with great propriety, and in a very impressive manner, and at the same time without any theatrical grimace or violence. I own I do not like much action in the pulpit; I do not like the studied air and artificial inflexions of voice which your very popular and most admired preachers generally have. A simple delivery is much better calculated to inspire devotion, and shows a much better taste. Mr. Howard read like a scholar and a gentleman."

"And what had you for dinner, sir?" said his eldest daughter.

He related the dishes, and told what he had eaten himself. "Upon the whole," he added, "I have had a very comfortable day. My old friends were quite surprised to see me amongst them, and I must say that everybody paid me great attention, and seemed to feel for me as an invalid. They would make me sit near the fire, and as the partridges were pretty high, Dr. Richards would have them sent away to the other end of the table that they might not offend Mr. Watson, which I thought very kind of him. But what pleased me as much as anything was Mr. Howard's attention. There is a pretty steep flight of steps up to the room we dine in, which do not quite agree with my rusty foot, and Mr. Howard walked back and forth from the bottom to the top, and would make me take his arm. It struck me I had no claim to expect it; for I never saw him before in my life. By the by, he inquired after one of my daughters, but I do not know which. I suppose you know among yourselves."

On the third day after the ball, at five minutes before three, a carriage began to bustle into the parlour with the tray and knife-case, she was suddenly called to the front door by the sound of a smart rap as the end of a riding whip could give; and though charged by Miss Watson to let nobody in, returned in half a minute with a look of awkward dismay to hold the parlour door open for Lord Osborne and Tom Musgrave. The surprise of the young ladies may be imagined. No visitors would have been welcome at such a moment; but such visitors as these—such a one as Lord Osborne at least, a nobleman and a stranger—was really distressing.

He looked a little embarrassed himself, as, on being introduced by his easy, voluble friend, he muttered something of doing himself the honour of waiting upon Mr. Watson. Though Emma could not but take the compliment of the visit to herself, she was very far from enjoying it. She felt

all the inconsistency of such an acquaintance with the very humble style in which they were obliged to live; and having in her aunt's family been used to many of the elegancies of life, was fully sensible of all that must be open to the ridicule of richer people in her present home. Of the pain of such feelings, Elizabeth knew very little. Her simple mind, or juster reason, saved her from such mortification; and though shrinking under a general sense of inferiority, she felt no particular shame. Mr. Watson, as the gentleman had already heard from Nanny, was not well enough to be downstairs. With much concern they took their seats; Lord Osborne near Emma, and the convenient Mr. Musgrave, in high spirits at his own importance on the other side of the fireplace with Elizabeth. He was at no loss for words; but when Lord Osborne had hoped that Emma had not caught cold at the ball, he had nothing more to say for some time, and could only gratify his eye by occasional glances at his fair companion. Emma was not inclined to give herself much trouble for his entertainment, and after hard labour of mind, he produced a remark of his being a very fine day, and followed it up with the question of "Have you been walking this morning?"

"No, my lord. We thought it too dirty."

"You should wear half-boots," after another pause, he added. "Nothing sets off a neat ankle more than a half-boot; nankeen, galoshes with black looks very well. Do you not like half-boots?"

"No, my lord, unless they are so stout as to injure their beauty, they are not fit for country walking."

"Ladies should ride in dirty weather. Do you ride?"

"No, my lord."

"I wonder every lady does not. A woman never looks better than on horseback."

"But every woman may not have the inclination, or the means."

"If they knew how much it became them, they would all have the inclination; and I fancy, Miss Watson, when once they had the inclination, the means would soon follow."

"Your lordship thinks we always have our own way. That is a point on which ladies and gentlemen have long disagreed; but without pretending to decide it, I may say that there are some circumstances which even women cannot control. Female economy will do a great deal, my lord, but it cannot turn a small income into a large one."

Lord Osborne was silenced. Her manner had been neither sententious nor sarcastic, but there was a something in its mild seriousness, as well as in the words themselves, which made his lordship think; and when he addressed her again, it was with a degree of considerate propriety totally unlike the half-sarcastic half-familiar style of his former remarks. It was a new thing with him to wish to please a woman; it

was the first time that he had ever felt what was due to a woman in Emma's situation; but as he was wanting neither in sense nor a good disposition, he did not feel it without effect.

"You have not been long in this country, I understand," said he, in the tone of a gentleman. "I hope you are pleased with it."

He was rewarded by a gracious answer, and a more liberal full view of her face than she had yet bestowed. Unused to exert himself, and happy in contemplating her, he then sat in silence for some minutes longer, while Tom Musgrave was chatting to Elizabeth, till they were interrupted by Nanny's approach, who, half-opening the door, and putting her head in, said:

"Please, ma'am, master wants to know why he hasn't had his dinner. He has hitherto disregarded every symptom, however positive, of the nearness of that meal, now jumped up with apologies, while Elizabeth called briskly after Nanny to tell Betty to 'take up the towels.' 'I am sorry it happens so,' she added, turning good-naturedly towards Musgrave, 'but you know what early hours we keep.'"

Tom had nothing to say for himself, for he knew it very well, and such honest simplicity, such shameless truth, rather bewildered him. Lord Osborne's parting compliments took some time, his inclination for speech seeming to increase with the shortness of the term for indulgence. He recommended exercise in defiance of dirt, spoke again in praise of half-boots; begged that his sister might be allowed to send Emma the name of her shoe-maker; and concluded with saying, "My hounds will be hunting this country next week. I believe they will throw off at Stanton Wood on Wednesday at nine o'clock. I mention this in hopes of your being drawn out to see what's going on. If the morning's tolerable, pray do us the honour of giving us your good wishes in person."

The sisters looked at each other in astonishment when their visitor had withdrawn.

"Here's an unaccountable honour!" cried Elizabeth at last. "Who would have thought of Lord Osborne's coming to Stanton? He is very handsome; but Tom Musgrave looks all to rights. I mention this in hopes of your being drawn out to see what's going on. If the morning's tolerable, pray do us the honour of giving us your good wishes in person."

To say that Emma was not flattered by Lord Osborne's visit would be to assert a very unlikely thing, and describe a very odd young lady; but the gratification was by no means unalloyed. His coming was a sort of notice which might please her vanity, but did not suit her pride, and she would rather have known that he wished the visit without presuming to make it, than have seen him at Stanton.

Among other unsatisfactory feelings it once occurred to her to wonder why Mr. Howard had not taken the same privilege of coming, and accompanying his lordship, but she was willing to suppose that he had either known nothing about it, or had declined any share in a measure which carried quite as much imperfection in its form as good breeding. Mr. Watson was very far from being delighted when he heard what had passed; a little peevish, and somewhat pained, and ill-disposed to be pleased, he only replied:

"Phoo! Phoo! What occasion could there be for Lord Osborne's coming? I have lived here 14 years without being noticed by any of her family. It is some fooling of that idle fellow Tom Musgrave. I cannot return the visit. I would not if I could."

And when Tom Musgrave was met again, he was commissioned with a message of excuse to Osborne, on the too sufficient plea of Mr. Watson's infirm state of health.

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Eating in dialect

Spray a while

To Leach or not to Leach?

Special offer of French Asparagus

(continued)

Chess

The charmed circle

April 12 the English team be setting out for Moscow, to undergo its severest since the last European Championship Finals at in 1973. This champion-ship brain-child of my good friend Dr. Wilfried Doradz, of na, is always a fearsome event with teams that y do contain the quint-essence of European chess.

The seven countries that qualified to join them in final are as follows:—and from Group 1: Hungary, Romania from Group 2; Bulgaria and Poland from Group 3; Czechoslovakia from Group 4; and West Germany from Group 5.

at England qualified from p 1 ahead of the power-ful Dutch team we owe almost-ly to the brave resistance of the Welsh to them in the preliminary group, tentally when referring to renaissance of Welsh chess week, I find I forgot to tion one possible cause, h was the impetus given to game in Wales by Mr. es, the Mayor-elect of rystwyth. Would all mayors s energetic as he is in ining the cause of chess, ist time England occupied respectable position of sixth of eight. How will the team this time? The first point uke is that Moscow will inly be a stronger event Bath was. This time we Czechoslovakia and yaria in place of Poland and zerland, who rather surpris-ly and luckily qualified for 1.

think the English team is hly stronger than it was Bath. It is, in board order,

Keene, Hartston, Stean, Nunn, Mestel, Whiteley, Webb, Bellin, with Speciman and Rumsen as the two reserves. Of these, Keene, Hartston and Stean, who played at Bath as well, have increased in strength and in addition there are two talented newcomers in Nunn and Mestel.

Alas, it could have been even stronger but Tony Miles, who was originally on the list as first board, has instead chosen to accept an invitation to play in a tournament in Brazil. This is a thousand pities. His absence from the Moscow event will be highly regrettable not only from the aspect of the English team's results there but also in relation to the further progress of Tony Miles himself.

To those who believe that now he has gained the official title of grandmaster much further progress is unnecessary and impossible for Tony Miles, I would say that his acquisition of the title is neither here nor there. It is a title held in common by such great players as Botvinnik, Fischer and Karpov, and the paper tigers who conspire about half of the total of official grandmasters and are known collectively as Damjanovic.

In order to break through to the charmed circle of those deemed to be rivals of the world champion, our grandmaster will have to play against the best in the world. At Moscow he could have met no less than five of these—Karpov, Portisch, Ljubojevic, Gligoric, Hort and Hubner. Good results against this admittedly formidable quartet are not beyond his powers and would certainly have enhanced his reputation. It is not too late for Tony Miles to change his mind and to would-graciously accept the challenge of his many admirers in British chess if he were to abandon his

Brazilian trip in favour of the harder but more rewarding Moscow event.

He was absent from the English team at the Clare Benedict Team Tournament in Copenhagen last month and whilst the English side did pretty well in coming second to Denmark in this strong West European event his presence might have given us chances for first place. The final scores were:—Denmark 18; England 17, Sweden 14; Spain 14, Austria 12, West Germany and Norway 12; and Switzerland 10.

The Danish grandmaster, Bent Larsen, was a tower of strength on top board where he scored four wins and three draws and played in every round. Bent Hartston and Stean both gained prizes for the highest scores on boards 2 and 3 and Keene held his own on top board and drew his game with Larsen. Rumsen too did well on bottom board with a 70 per cent score, but Webb was quite out of form and scored only 25 per cent. One hopes this is purely temporary and that he will show his true capabilities at Moscow.

The team efficiency and positional sense were fair, with Keene beats the West German top board in the following game from the Clare Benedict augur well for his performance on that board at Moscow.

White: E. Lehmman. Black: R. D. Keene. QP Queen's Indian Defence.

1. P-K4 P-K3 2. P-K3 P-K3

Here White has to choose between two very different systems: (1) a counter-attack by 3. P-K4 and (2) an attempt to control or meet Black's threats on the white squares by 3. P-QB4 followed by Q-B2 and Q-B3 or even Q-Kt-Q2. But the line he actu-

ally chooses is a feeble compromise.

Too slow, he should have played 7. Kt-B3. White's indifferent play contrasts unhappily with Black's purposeful strategy.

An alternative that is slightly preferable to this way of capturing is 9. Kt-P3, which at least provides an open diagonal for the QB.

Proposing another faulty manoeuvre; preferable was 13. KR-K1.

14. Kt-K3 P-K3 15. Kt-K3 P-K3 16. Kt-P3 P-K3 17. Kt-K3 P-K3 18. Kt-K3 P-K3 19. Kt-K3 P-K3 20. Kt-K3 P-K3 21. Kt-K3 P-K3 22. Kt-K3 P-K3 23. Kt-K3 P-K3 24. Kt-K3 P-K3 25. Kt-K3 P-K3 26. Kt-K3 P-K3 27. Kt-K3 P-K3 28. Kt-K3 P-K3 29. Kt-K3 P-K3 30. Kt-K3 P-K3 31. Kt-K3 P-K3 32. Kt-K3 P-K3 33. Kt-K3 P-K3 34. Kt-K3 P-K3 35. Kt-K3 P-K3 36. Kt-K3 P-K3 37. Kt-K3 P-K3 38. Kt-K3 P-K3 39. Kt-K3 P-K3 40. Kt-K3 P-K3 41. Kt-K3 P-K3 42. Kt-K3 P-K3 43. Kt-K3 P-K3 44. Kt-K3 P-K3 45. Kt-K3 P-K3 46. Kt-K3 P-K3 47. Kt-K3 P-K3 48. Kt-K3 P-K3 49. Kt-K3 P-K3 50. Kt-K3 P-K3 51. Kt-K3 P-K3 52. Kt-K3 P-K3 53. Kt-K3 P-K3 54. Kt-K3 P-K3 55. Kt-K3 P-K3 56. Kt-K3 P-K3 57. Kt-K3 P-K3 58. Kt-K3 P-K3 59. Kt-K3 P-K3 60. Kt-K3 P-K3 61. Kt-K3 P-K3 62. Kt-K3 P-K3 63. Kt-K3 P-K3 64. Kt-K3 P-K3 65. Kt-K3 P-K3 66. Kt-K3 P-K3 67. Kt-K3 P-K3 68. Kt-K3 P-K3 69. Kt-K3 P-K3 70. Kt-K3 P-K3 71. Kt-K3 P-K3 72. Kt-K3 P-K3 73. Kt-K3 P-K3 74. Kt-K3 P-K3 75. Kt-K3 P-K3 76. Kt-K3 P-K3 77. Kt-K3 P-K3 78. Kt-K3 P-K3 79. Kt-K3 P-K3 80. 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Geoffrey Keynes, the dreamer who was undeniably a man of action as well

© Sir Geoffrey Keynes, pictured right, the distinguished surgeon and literary editor was 90 yesterday. His lifelong friend, author, David Garnett, recalls their first meeting.

I was staying at Grantchester with Rupert Brooke, to whom I had been introduced by Noel Olivier, and was woken early in the summer morning by a shout. It was Geoffrey Keynes, and my first sight of him was halfway up the stairs, urging Rupert to hurry and come out and bathe in Byron's pool. He had run out from Cambridge and as soon as we had had our swim, he ran off again refusing to stay for breakfast. Even then, every hour was allotted and his day was full.

He was tall and beneath his youth and gaiety there was a high-metalled impatience for action. That was in 1910. Just over four years later he was in uniform and I went to see him at Adrian Stephens' house in Brunswick Square. As I had spent those years as a science student and knew something of bacteriology, I thought that I might make a good lab assistant in an army medical unit, and it shows how little Geoffrey then knew of army organization, that he did not immediately think it impossible that I should go out with him in some humble capacity.

It was still with that hope that I went a day or two later, to the Stephen house, where I found Maynard Keynes lying absolutely relaxed in an armchair. It was the first time I had met and talked to him. Geoffrey had gone and was in France, and Maynard assured me that the war would be over by the following spring.

During the five years which followed I saw much of Maynard, living as I did in the familiar circle of his friends, and but little of Geoffrey. Of course we met casually now and then in my bookshop, but we did not see much of each other until I, almost accidentally, became a junior partner in the Nonesuch Press on its foundation.

Magnificent volumes

There was a need for a complete edition of Blake's writings. The *Rhyme and Reason* edition was expensive, rare and unsatisfactory. So my first suggestion to Francis and Vera Maynard was to urge them to commission Geoffrey to edit a complete Blake. This turned out to be a magnificent work in three large volumes with all the variant readings. It was followed by many other works—bibliographies and other important editions. As a result Geoffrey became a constant visitor to the Nonesuch Press and a close friend.

But by then I had become an author and Geoffrey a famous surgeon. He had all the qualities needed: accurate judgement, rapid decision, perfect technique and physical health and strength. His days were filled with action; and, in the evenings, he turned untrillingly to scholarship and books.

Before 1929 Geoffrey had talked to me about the treatment of cancer, and when my wife developed the first symptoms of cancer of the breast, Geoffrey examined her and with extraordinary generosity—which did not seem extra-



ordinary since it was so much part of his character—undertook her treatment. The symptoms recurred and his care of her lasted 11 years until her death.

This brought us very close. Geoffrey did not speak words of sympathy; I did not express gratitude, but in some circumstances words are not needed, or possible.

In those years between the wars, Geoffrey got into the habit of inviting me to come for an evening and stay for the night at his house in Arkwright Road, at a time when I had no flat in London and we could sit and talk about books until midnight.

What I regret in our friendship is that I saw him so seldom out of doors. I wish I could have gone walking, swimming, camping with him for he was the perfect companion for the country.

Actually, I spent more time in the open air, walking on the South Downs, with Maynard than with Geoffrey.

There was an immense contrast between the two brothers. But they had a trait in common which made them the most wonderful of friends. That is that any person whom they accepted was sure of his position. This acceptance (loyalty in the wrong word, yet it defies me to find the right one) was responsible for another precious quality. That is that on meeting again, even after a long interval, no time was wasted in trying to bridge a gap of months or years. The relationship went straight on from where it had left off.

I was talking the other day of Geoffrey and of Maynard, of the brilliance of their gifts and the diversity of their characters, to a famous surgeon of the present day and he threw out a curious paradox. He said that the art of keeping people alive had now reached such a point that rapid diagnosis and speedy action were not needed in the surgeon. In most cases he had plenty of time. But the qualities of instant decision and action were now essential for the financier and economist.

"So perhaps if they were to start again Lord Keynes would be the great surgeon and Sir Geoffrey the brilliant financier."

This seemed to me ridiculous but nevertheless interesting. I don't think that I ever met Geoffrey when he was not planning some project or helping and persuading someone else to carry out some cherished dream which he felt ought to be realised.

Blake must have had a prophetic vision of Geoffrey when he wrote: "Energy is eternal delight."

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George Hutchinson

How close has Mr Steel come to dishing the Liberals?

The consequences of the deal could easily impair the Liberals' identity as a distinctive political force.

I do not suppose, however, that he would have taken defeat too tragically if he had lost the vote on Wednesday night and then the ensuing election. With every justification he could have blamed Sir Harold Wilson more than himself. It is Sir Harold's record that does the Labour Party rather than Mr Callaghan's.

Believing as she does that an election cannot be long delayed, Mrs Thatcher also feels, on reflection, that the week's developments are likely to serve and assist her own interests. Support for the Liberals, which appeared to be increasing,

may now be checked, while the unrest of the Labour left must be expected to grow if Mr Steel and his little band should actually succeed in moderating Government policy—and even the attempt will inflame the Marxists.

But there are other considerations, too. For one thing, there was the possible boomerang effect of precipitating an election so very suddenly by resort to a motion of no confidence, a tactic rarely employed by another, the Conservative Party organization is not yet fully prepared, although gathering strength week by week.

For many months it has been Mrs Thatcher's instinct—her conviction—that an election will occur this year, not from the Prime Minister's choice but under the pressure of events. Accordingly, she and Lord Thorneycroft, the party chairman, have been working towards a state of readiness. In several spheres their organizational arrangements are well advanced—but there are still a number of deficiencies, not least in the information services.

Above all, perhaps, their policies are in need of fuller exposition, of greater definition and precision. On this reasoning, Mrs Thatcher may think herself fortunate to have escaped the test for the moment. When it does come, she should be better prepared.

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The hidden Rabbi inside Leonard Bernstein

In a rare interview, Leonard Bernstein explains that there is much more to his musical life than conducting and composing. During his recent visit to London he talked to John Groom...

Sepulchrally quiet in South-west London, where the traffic is still the double-glazed efficiency of the Henry Wood Hall. In an island of light amid a myriad musicians stands Leonard Bernstein, still looking at 58 years of age, immaculately cashmere and baton poised.

A musician among musicians. "Yes," he is to tell me later, "it is true. That is how I describe myself on those forms beloved of bureaucracy where there is a space for 'profession'. I always write 'musician' but I am also a teacher."

"I want to share what I know about music. It is no fun just to know it yourself. You must communicate it. Music is not an isolated phenomenon, no, it should be an act of sharing and education. If I err, I stress things wrongly. It is the pursuit of this educational drive. Somewhere in me, there is a hidden rabbi.... Bernstein leaves the sentence unfinished—a dotted chord, lingering in the silence before dying away.

He does not like to err or to stress things unduly. He is sensitive to the sort of "personal criticism" in which British journalists indulge. He fears they do not judge him by his performance, by his achievement in communicating to the musicians and audience, but by totally unrelated personal criteria.

Interviewed by BBC television last week, he was seen to suffer fools, but only just and not gladly. He did not enjoy being asked how many more decades active conducting he had in him and he positively glared at his interviewer when he was suggested that he was a flamboyant conductor.

Last Monday night he gave a wonderful concert at the Festival Hall with the English Bach Festival and nine eminent soloists. The programme comprised the Mass and Les Noces by Stravinsky, who was Bernstein's predecessor as president of the EBF, and Bach's Magnificat in D. The concert, though not uniformly well reviewed, was rapturously received by the audience, who could not



have been solely impressed by the fact that he was giving his services free.

His rapport with his musicians—including the huge chorus of the EBF not to mention the Trinity Boys' Choir—was astonishing both at rehearsals and on the night. During the Mass, his performance on the podium was all dignity and restraint. In Les Noces, it is true, he did bounce a little. But then, damn it, Les Noces is as much a piece of the ballet repertoire as it is of the oratorio.

Highly articulate, beautifully mannered, with a sharp wit and a rapid tongue (for those who describe him, as the *Evening Standard* once did, as "the jet-set maestro"), Bernstein is

strangely unknown in Britain.

"Perhaps," he explains, "I started off on the left foot in this country. I came here in 1946—a brood of a lad—for a series of concert engagements. It was June and the weather was atrocious. I could not get radio coupons to buy such essentials as gloves and mufflers. I just froze and became miserable."

"I was not encouraged by this experience to return to London and indeed I did not for a further 15 years." In that time, he accepts, he may have offered himself as a natural target for the critics. Perhaps it is because of the variety of his activities. Possibly they can find nowhere to pigeon-hole him. He is sad about it more than angry.

Anyway, although he feels very strongly about personal conduct, he tends to shy away from personal publicity. He will not, for example, talk about his private life, though he is happy to be quoted on his espousal of minority causes.

Though being pro-Jew is not nearly so fashionable as once it was, Bernstein is very pro-Jew. Though Carter is now President (not without the help of a Bernstein campaign concert) the musician is still avidly pro-Carter.

He believes deeply in the work of Amnesty International and his concert for them in Munich last October was a thundering success. Not only did he refuse a fee, but he persuaded the soloists and the orchestra to return theirs as well. The recording of that concert has sold over 15,000 copies. All these fees and profits went to Amnesty.

His work on behalf of Amnesty continues. This autumn with a Beethoven concert in Vienna. After that, there will be another in Amsterdam, where the Concertgebouw have said that they would like to work with him for the international pressure group. Bernstein says of Amnesty: "The great thing about their work is that it is not politically slanted. Its universality, like that of music, attracts me greatly."

With his year divided into periods when he conducts and teaches and others when he composes and writes, there is scarcely time for vacation. "Setting my own disciplines in those concerned periods of thinking is a wonderful break," he says. Also, he has undertaken many fewer conducting engagements in the past decade. His written work, his Harvard lectures, his books have all stirred up areas of new thinking in the linguistic approach to musical understanding. MIT now has a degree course based on this thinking.

Bernstein's ambition for the future is to write a novel. "You know, I am appalled each day when I wake up that I have never written one. It just happens that my creative impulses are towards the creative and essentially good, have titles and programmes even. Yes, a novel. Oh, and an opera...."

Another chord lingers on as he is ushered away to more rehearsals and recordings.



The man who helped to make table tennis more than just a game of ping-pong

Sportsworld

Echoes from the past, when balls carved from champagne corks were hit by leashed Victorians across their polished tables, still reverberate around the world today. But the precise truth about the origins of modern table tennis seems unlikely to emerge.

Nobody can dispute the evidence provided by the world championships starting in Birmingham this weekend as to what has happened since those misty days. With millions of participants on every continent, table tennis is in the front rank of the many global sports passed to other nations by the English.

The first world championships drew about 80 players from nine countries to the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, London, in December 1926. The tournament, the £300 cost of which was met from an English officials' fortuitous legacy, had been mooted at a meeting in Berlin earlier in the year as a European championship. Entries from Indian students at a London hostel later justified the more grandiose title of world championships.

The International Table Tennis Federation was formed in Kensington a week after the inaugural tournament, and today it has 124 member associations. About 70 of them have players at Birmingham, and most of the other countries are sending delegates or officials, bringing the total to a record 1,000 or so actively involved. About 550,000 will be needed to cover costs, and Norwich Union is in the forefront of the various sponsors.

Table tennis received its first known mention in a sporting goods catalogue in 1884, but it was the arrival of celluloid balls a few years later from America which gave the sport its first major impetus. By 1900 there was a real craze for the game in society, though interest soon lapsed in England until the early 1920s. In central Europe, however, its popularity never sagged.

The celluloid balls, which replaced the cork or rubber ones used hitherto, were on sale in children's toy shops when their potential for table tennis was spotted by an English visitor, a Mr James Gibb. He brought some back home with him and is credited with first use of the words "ping-pong" in the game's language. This was based on the hollow valium rackets then in use. It was quickly registered as a trade name by an enterprising sports goods manufacturer.

English officials, whose own association has its jubilee this season, were entrusted with drawing up the game's laws from the start of the international federation. These have barely changed during 50 years, apart from a lowering of the net by 2 in to 6 in; the banning of finger spin while

serving, which was an American practice; and the introduction of time limits to matches. This followed some farcical stonewalling in the 1930s when some individual points were representative matches were contested for several hours.

Nowadays it is the sheer speed of the sport, calling for superb reflexes of mind and eye, which makes the biggest impression on the casual spectator. In a one-minute rally 15 hits and upwards have been recorded and the speed of a smashed hit has been timed at more than 100mph.

Without question the greatest contribution by any one Englishman to the game's development throughout the world has come from Mr Ivor Montagu. "He was the national federation's" chairman and remained in office for 41 years.

It was Mr Montagu's legs from his grandfather who paid for the 1926 event. He also paid a noteworthy care in his prodding, prodding and as a worker for peace, but his lifetime's dedication to his chosen game, hardly he marked by an other official in sport.

Mr Montagu was responsible for the federation becoming the first governing body sport to give their players open status. In the 1920s you were a professional in a sport, you often could not play as an amateur in another. It was a curious way and followed an earlier precedent in the case of Charles Bull, the Kent and Worcester cricketer, who was also an England table tennis player. With all the advantage of a deep fieldman's swing and accurate aim, he proved a devastating amateur player. With all the advantage of a deep fieldman's swing and accurate aim, he proved a devastating amateur player. With all the advantage of a deep fieldman's swing and accurate aim, he proved a devastating amateur player.

This year the China players are expected to dominate every event, and land a place in table tennis history, though, rests on the fact that matches won by clearly remain secret even if they never again another title.

Richard Street

Has Oxford a future?

In a special four-page report on the state of Oxford, Peter Wilby examines the University's creaking admissions system, its tangled finances, its still strong academic reputation, its colleges and their Fellows. He asks whether Oxford is making adequate efforts to ensure that it is relevant to the needs of our present-day society and concludes: "Yes. But..."

Also: Richard Hoggart discusses how the spirit of universities has changed since the end of the 1960s.

Dennis Marsden on the cycle of deprivation.

THE TIMES
Higher Education
SUPPLEMENT

Every Friday 18p

Pre-war days, with the Left Book Club and reds under the bed

I wonder if anyone else, anywhere, this year has read Hewlett Johnson's *The Socialist Sixth of the World*. I turned to it full of curiosity when I had finished reading the two volumes so far published of *Gulag Archipelago*. Was there any conceivable compatibility between Dr Johnson's well-known pacifistic and humanitarianism? How did Dr Johnson deal with the subject of the labour camps and the penal system?

Reading *The Socialist Sixth* I relived the late 1930s. I was in my late teens then, and worked in a railway office in London. Joe was a fellow clerk, and though he was 12 years older than I we got on well together; we were both provincials and decided to share a flat.

Joe was a communist. I was not. I would like to be able to say that that was because of the importance I attached to the free expression of ideas and free market economics, but it was my pacifism that kept me out of the Communist Party; I was one of the hundred thousand who had signed Dick Sheppard's peace pledge.

Naturally Joe worked on me a lot, but in the nicest possible way. He took me to meetings and socials; one evening I was introduced to Harry Pollitt, Secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain.

During most of our time together we had a flat in Lonsdale Square, Islington: thirteen shillings a week each, un-furnished. We took the *New Chronicle*, the *Daily Worker* and the *New Statesman*.

Our views on economics, race, nationalism, penology, education, etc. were Utopian. Breakfast was a leisurely occasion because we did not start work until six o'clock in the evening. Joe offered me a *Gold Flake* as he looked up from the paper and said: "I don't like the *Chronicle's* line on the Breton nationalism." This was because the treatment was flippant. Joe would say things like, "In the Soviet Union national cultures are encouraged. Many nations have just got a written language for the first time." And, "Just think, Des, in the Soviet Union preaching racial prejudice is a crime."

I believed these things and rejoiced in them. One day, in a hushed voice, Joe said: "The Webbs have brought out a new edition of *Soviet Communism: a New Civilization*." And they were left the question mark off the title.

Recollections of two conversations remind me that I went on rejoicing in the Soviet Union well into the postwar years. When a history-teaching colleague suggested that I might have been better if the Russian Revolution had never taken place, I put this down to the tiresome compulsion of historians to try to shock, like a lot of A. J. P. Taylors. A colleague who taught religion expressed the view that Dean Hewlett Johnson was a naive man. Yes, I agreed: how could an adult sign the Thirty-Nine Articles?

Joe was spokesman for the workers, including the women cleaners, who came to him with their grievances. Under his prompting I organized weekly collecting cards for Medical Aid for Spain. He organized a painting group and bought the monthly choice of the Left Book Club. Only one of these was eagerly read and discussed; it was written by a Dr Griffiths and called *Modern Marriage and Birth Control*. There was actually this was, maybe, 1938—a chapter on positions. Wow! There was certainly a red under the bed in our office.

I got a scholarship to the London School of Economics and left my job. One consequence was that I joined the Left Book Club in my own right and eventually had a shelf-ful of its publications. I came to believe that most of them were unreadable, so when a dealer in Richmond, Warwick, offered through the classified ads to buy them, I sold them, retaining only *The Theory and Practice of Socialism*, by John Strachey; *A Handbook of Marxist Philosophy*, prepared by the Leninist Rosa Luxemburg, by Paul Frölich; and the book I have just read, *The Socialist Sixth of the World*.

Are the reports of Johnson and Solzhenitsyn in any way compatible? The former on occasions reaches out towards the other way. In his 364 pages there are two or three paragraphs in which Johnson says things like this, from the Preface: "Finally, there is need to guard against a too rosy and optimistic view of life in the Soviet Union. My own

approach in this book is from the sympathetic side. . . . There are shadows as well as lights, and I am well, and many of them well-known and of recent make, housed in a field called the 'museum'. The Soviet Union's home-made harvesters had put the world's best specimens on the retired list," Dr Johnson adds, "Immense attention is paid to wheat."

On page 197 Dr Johnson writes: "One afternoon in the Ukraine I amused myself with inspecting dozens of discarded types (of combine harvesters), many of them well-known and of recent make, housed in a field called the 'museum'. The Soviet Union's home-made harvesters had put the world's best specimens on the retired list," Dr Johnson adds, "Immense attention is paid to wheat."

Solzhenitsyn conveys a picture of general inefficiency, with patches of chaos and waste. And on June 20, 1976, reported in *The Times* the following day, while I was reading Johnson, *Pravda* complained that in one area of Uzbekistan nearly 100 of the 300 harvesters available were not being used because of poor maintenance and mismanagement.

"Nothing strikes the visitor to the Soviet Union more forcibly than the absence of fear," Dr Johnson wrote this immediately before the Solzhenitsyn regards 1937 as perhaps the worst year for public denunciations of parents, neighbours, colleagues, former lovers. Of denunciation, Solzhenitsyn writes the terrible

sentence, "And it always worked." This was the time when an enthusiastic mechanic got 10 years for saying that a certain German machine was superior to a comparable Russian one.

The *Gulag Archipelago* is about the prison camps. Solzhenitsyn writes: "According to the estimates of the encyclopedia *Russiya-SSSR*, there were up to 15 million prisoners at a time. This figure agrees with the estimate made by prisoners inside the USSR, as we ourselves have added it up." How does Dr Johnson deal with the labour camps and the penal system? He does not mention them at all.

Reading the first part of *The Socialist Sixth*, which is a critique of western capitalism, I realized why some of us so ardently admired the Soviet Union. We were acutely aware of a wide range of frustrations and absurdities. It is not wicked that capitalist economies have led to the destruction of half a million sheep in Chile, 6,000,000 dairy cattle in the United States? And the jettisoning of a shipload of oranges, just outside poverty-stricken Liverpool? Of course it is.

Can we tolerate the buying up and sterilization of inventions so that firms do not have to modernize, and the creation of monopolies to restrict output and keep up prices? No, these things are intolerable. What are we to make of a system in which unemployed textile operatives long for work and need clothes for

their children? We can do nothing of it; we must do it away. Do you agree? Each citizen should contribute according to this ability according to his needs? Oh yes! That is wonderful and possible. It is obvious, is it not, that planned economy there can be no unemployment? At last was a serious point, particularly telling if someone to you was one of the 3,000 unemployed.

If you had responded to normally humane way to the questions only a little up and needed and your mind fell place. In the Soviet Union there is socialism, there planning! It followed that frustrations and absurdities were swept away.

There were important points about the social and cultural structure, too. We can prove that phenomena of crime, racialism and all sorts evils spring from capitalism. Including fascism and war.

J. B. S. Haldane wrote a *Ullar science column* in *Daily Worker*. One day he said that low pay caused people delay marriage. Most men babies are born to mothers. "So you see capitalism is even responsible for birth of mongrel children." A freed from poverty, ill-health and ignorance, people you could simply be nicer. It even obvious to me, to us, in 1930s, that in the Soviet Union everyone was going to be happy ever after.

D. L. P. Hardt



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MR DESAI AND MR RAM

It was hardly likely that in the course of the Indian election campaign much emphasis would have been laid on the great difficulties the Janata coalition would face if it should defeat Mrs Gandhi's Congress. Yet those difficulties in the choice of a leader and in the cohesiveness of the coalition were plain to see. So it is now proving. Mr Desai's acquisition of the leadership has exposed the rivalry in that quarter, as Mr Jagjivan Ram and his Congress for Democracy at first withdrew sulking, refusing to come closer to the existing coalition. The problems within the coalition may also be sensed in the delay over announcing Cabinet appointments.

Mr Jagjivan Ram's role in all this may be laid bare without undue crudity. His ambition to take over the leadership of Congress from Mrs Gandhi led him to forsake the coalition. He sensed that the wind would not be in his quarter. His Congress for Democracy could therefore swim with the opposition tide and his political influence in northern India could be used in its aid to bring about Mrs Gandhi's defeat while leaving him free, if the outcome favoured it, to return to the Congress ranks when it was ready to evict Mrs Gandhi from the leadership. Alternatively, an opposition victory would give him the chance of leading it by having become its strong man and saviour.

In the event he has lost on both expectations. Mrs Gandhi's defeat was so great that the

surviving Congress is no longer worth leading—not as it miserably stands, holding its position only in the southern states where Mr Ram has no real foothold. Yet the victory of the Janata Party was one to which Mr Jagjivan Ram's personal contribution in terms of seats won was not so great as to give him sufficient leverage to contest the choice of Mr Morarji Desai—who is older, whose ministerial record is more impressive, and whose determined ambition is quite as strong as Mr Ram's. He has now had to accept a Cabinet post as the best he can get in the situation in which he finds himself.

Has Mr Morarji Desai the capacity to make a coherent party out of the four groups composing the Janata coalition? He has outlined a programme that might serve well enough for parties that are anchored slightly more to the right than to the left—save for the relatively weak Socialists. But just as the Liberal-Democratic Party in Japan has been understood only by analysing its factions, so Indian politics at this stage, thirty years after independence, must be read in terms of factions that once formed part of the united Congress that set out to rule independent India.

That Congress is now divided into four parts. One is the defeated party in which Mrs Gandhi's leadership has now been inherited by Mr Chavan, lately India's Foreign Minister. Then there is the Congress for Democracy of Mr Jagjivan Ram

that may now have lost its moorings but will certainly remain politically active. Then there are the two factions within the Janata Party: Mr Morarji Desai's wing of Congress which regarded Mrs Gandhi as a temporary leader when she was put in in 1966 and which broke away over the policy issue of bank nationalization in 1969, when she was sticking fast and looked as though she would be hard to evict. The other Congress body is led by Mr Charan Singh, once chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, who fell out with Mrs Gandhi and founded his own Indian People's Party (B.L.D.). Mr Charan Singh's role in the opposition victory has certainly been considerable and he will have an important post in Mr Desai's team.

Apart from the two Communist parties—one a discontented ex-partner of Mrs Gandhi's Congress; the other an ally of the opposition though not part of the coalition, the only other party that matters in India, and may in the near future matter a good deal, is the Jan Sangh. In terms of organization and membership it is the next in India to Congress in size but its following is much more in the north than in the south. Its Hindu leanings may find in Mr Desai an acceptable leader. But even if his vigour is undiminished at eighty-one his inflexibility will certainly make his management of the coalition a much more difficult task than those he has taken on in his long career in politics.

MR CARTER AND THE PALESTINIANS

The past three weeks have seen a number of significant developments affecting the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Israeli Prime Minister has visited Washington. The Palestine National Council has met in Cairo and revised its political programme. The American and Soviet leaders have both spent out their ideas on the solution of the conflict in greater detail than before, apparently moving a little closer together in the process. And last night a new Middle East debate began in the United Nations Security Council.

Mr Rabin's visit to Washington did not in itself alter the known outlines of the problem, but it did serve as the stimulus, or at least the starting-point, for a series of statements by Mr Carter. First he delighted the Israelis by endorsing their need for "defensible borders". Then he explained that he thought Israel could, for the foreseeable future, keep defence lines beyond whatever were agreed to be the permanent and recognized legal borders. The Arabs took offence at this, but the Israelis too were upset by Mr Carter's "guess" that the borders to which Israel would have to withdraw in return for full peace would involve only "minor adjustments in the 1967 borders".

The Israelis got a further shock last week when Mr Carter informed the unsuspecting inhabitants of Clinton, Massachusetts, that "there has to be a homeland provided for the Palestinian refugees who have suffered so many, many years", and then went on to shake hands (clearly on purpose) with the PLO

observer at the United Nations headquarters in New York. The word he used was carefully chosen: it does not commit him to support an independent Palestinian state, any more than in 1917 Balfour's promise of a "national home in Palestine" for the Jews committed Britain to create a Jewish state. But it is a word as charged with emotional significance for Palestinians now as it was for Jews then.

It confirms, too, what Mr Carter's statements about other areas of the world had already suggested—that his concern for human rights is genuine and universal in its application. Just as his anxiety for a Salt agreement does not weaken his concern about the fate of Soviet Jews and other dissidents, so his unquestionably firm support for Israel's existence will not weaken his concern at the suffering of Palestinian refugees—or, one may surmise, of the Palestinians living under Israeli occupation, whose situation was the object of a unanimous expression of concern by the Security Council last November and has certainly not improved since.

Mr Carter wants to help the Palestinians, and his statement was publicly welcomed by Mr Yasser Arafat. But he may well feel that the Palestinians—or at least the 292 of them who assembled in Cairo and unanimously re-elected Mr Arafat as their leader—are not helping him. The Palestine National Council has reaffirmed the PLO's rejection of Resolution 242 and any negotiations based on it, as well as all types of American capitulationist projects. It has urged the PLO to "escalate the

armed struggle in the occupied territory", and has decided "to adhere to the support for the Palestine Revolution in order to regain the constant national rights of the Palestinian Arab people without any concession or recognition" (sic of Israel).

One can of course explain that such decisions were the necessary price of Mr Arafat's victory in breaking up the former "rejection front" (now apparently reduced to Mr George Habash's group and denied, for the time at least, even Iraqi support). One can point to the clauses emphasizing the need for "an independent national state on their national soil" (ie, not, in the first instance, a "democratic" state in the whole of Palestine) and asserting "the PLO's rights to participate independently and on an equal footing in all the conferences and international forums concerned with the Palestine issue and the Arab-Zionist conflict"—thus apparently leaving Mr Arafat free to accept an invitation to the Geneva Conference provided it does not actually have "Resolution 242" stamped all over it. But these scarcely provide Mr Carter with arguments to persuade the Israelis to allow such an invitation to be issued, any more than Mr Brezhnev's generous admission that "the drawing up of peace terms in every detail is primarily a matter for the conflicting sides themselves" will persuade them to accept his offer to place Soviet observers in the demilitarized zones. There are still many obstacles to be removed before a settlement will be in sight.

A FAIRER SHARE OF THE TRAFFIC

With only three months to go before the Bermuda agreement on air traffic between the United Kingdom and the United States expires, we are still a long way from a new agreement. The talks next week in Washington between the two countries should provide an opportunity to sort out those issues where the differences are matters of degree, on which a compromise should be possible, and those where more fundamental issues of principle are at stake.

Some of the principles are clear. It is pointless even to try to negotiate a new agreement if the other partner is not willing or able to implement the present one on matters which are inconvenient. The failure to allow Concord to use New York airport owes more to internal Democratic politics in that state than it does to policy of the United States Government; but it is clear that under the terms of the present agreement Concord does have a right to land in New York. The failure of the Washington Administration to

ensure that that right is respected ought to be rectified at once.

These doubts are reinforced by the evident unwillingness of the United States to give up some of the more obviously unfair advantages which it has enjoyed since the original Bermuda settlement was reached in 1947. The most notable of these is the so-called "fifth freedom", which in practice allows American airlines to fly from British territory to destinations other than the United States. For example, Pan American flies to nine European cities from London, with the possibility of taking some of the short-distance traffic. It is clearly an unequal arrangement which allows the United States' airlines to do this when British Airways cannot compete for internal traffic in the United States. This point has more than theoretical importance. On the North Atlantic route alone, the imbalance in revenues is not, probably, an insuperable problem. It is in their flights from

London to destinations on the Continent and westwards from Hongkong that the American airlines have an unfair advantage.

On the other issues, the scope for negotiation is clearer. There seems already to have been some movement towards an understanding on the share-out of routes on the North Atlantic itself, and although it is unrealistic to suppose that the United States would accept the principle of one American airline on the New York-London route, they have in practice cut back their flights from many other cities.

On the other main demand of the United Kingdom, that there should be action to limit surplus capacity, the real interests of both countries do not differ greatly. The United States has no more wish than we have to see aircraft flying nearly empty, but the United Kingdom ought not to be so committed to the interests of its national airline that it forgets that passengers pay heavily on scheduled flights and should expect to get a seat when they need one.

Mr Kyle's interview can hardly have helped in that task. Yet in his letter of March 23 he sees fit to justify his interview by further unsubstantiated suggestions that the RUC may have flouted the Attorney General's undertakings that certain deep interrogation techniques used in 1971 would not be reintroduced.

Certainly the BBC has the duty to inform. But in so violent a situation as Northern Ireland does it not have an overriding responsibility to support those entrusted with law and order until it is in possession of all the facts relating to an allegation of brutality? Yours faithfully, MICHAEL MCNAIR-WILSON, House of Commons, March 23.

BBC reporting in Ulster

From Mr Michael McNair-Wilson, MP for Newbury, Berkshire (Conservative)

Sir, Sir Michael Swann's and Mr Keith Kyle's letters on the BBC's reporting of events in Northern Ireland will arouse more concern than any they may allow.

Sir Michael (March 22), in his defence of the Kyle interview on the Tonight programme, asks what practical alternative was open to the BBC except to put out the interview since it raised a matter of public concern. May I make a suggestion?

Before broadcasting it, why didn't the BBC inform the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the Secretary of State for

Northern Ireland about the allegations made by Mr O'Connor? They could still have reserved the right to put out the programme covering the complaint if they felt the allegations had not been properly considered. At least it would have meant that the RUC's point of view was heard.

Would that have conflicted with the BBC's declared duty "to reflect the conflict and all its manifestations"? And would it not have shown some responsibility towards the men and women of the Royal Ulster Constabulary who have recently suffered their hundredth fatal casualty? Day after day they seek to bring law and order to every part of Northern Ireland. That depends on the trust and confidence which all the community has in their impartiality.

Liberal Party support for the Labour Government

From Professor F. E. G. Cox

The decision of the Liberal MPs to join with the Labour Party has effectively disenfranchised many of the professional middle class. We voted Liberal in large numbers because we did not want to vote for either the Labour Party with its policies, which many of us consider to be divisive and destructive, or for the Conservatives, with their apparent disregard for underprivileged individuals and human rights and dignity. Our votes were not wasted. We became part of a self-respecting minority which was totally under-represented in Parliament but whose elected representatives stood as symbols of much of what we believed in.

Had the Liberals obtained or voted according to their consciences they would have reflected a feeling held by many that neither of the major parties deserves the confidence of the people and kept support. What party can we vote for now? Is there any future for the thinking professional middle class? Yes, probably there is—but not in Britain. Yours faithfully, F. E. G. COX, University of London King's College, Strand, WC2, March 23.

From Dr A. J. Black
Sir, I voted Liberal instead of Labour in the past two elections, and I would like to register wholehearted support for the recent agreement between these parties. In my view, allowing economic policies which are beginning to bear fruit time to work out shows a greater concern for the national interest than does appealing to popular sovereignty in an attempt to gain power in a manner that is in no way prescribed by our constitutional norms. Yours faithfully, A. J. BLACK, Department of Political Science, The University, Dundee, March 24.

From Mrs Anna Keighley
Sir, In the past I have cast my vote for the Liberal Party because I did not want either a Tory or a Socialist government. Though ineffective, it was the only positive statement I could make regarding my political beliefs.

I now feel I have been dismayed by the men I felt shared my views. It is as though they have cast my vote and handed it, gift wrapped, to a smiling tiger, and what is more, I was not consulted. Yours faithfully, ANNA KEIGHLEY, Apple Yard, High Road, Old Epsom, Surrey, Middlesex, March 23.

From Mr Peter Herlierson Lewis
Sir, The arrangement comes to which the Liberals will, I think, please all but extreme opinion, be it right, left or centrist. As proof of the Liberals' genuine desire for a period of effective

government under Mr Callaghan, I feel the first step Mr Steel and his colleagues should now take is to arrange for the Liberal candidate in the Stochford-by-election to withdraw. While I believe Labour will now win next week, this would be a widely valued gesture of goodwill. Yours faithfully, PETER HENDERSON LEWIS, 17b Whitehall Road, Rugby, Warwickshire, March 23.

From Mr Antony J. Mee
Sir, Let no Liberal ever say again that a vote for Liberals is not a vote for Labour. Yours faithfully, ANTONY J. MEE, Woodcroft House, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, March 24.

From Mr Edgar Fromm
Sir, Many years ago, when I served on the committee of a local Liberal Association and consequently acted as an observer during two election counts, a very prominent Liberal politician, now deceased, remarked to me afterwards that if ever I were to witness in my later life a situation when Liberals should align themselves with the Labour Party I am to take it for granted that I shall then see the beginning of the demise of the Liberal Party.

Little could I have suspected, almost three decades ago, that in 1977 Liberals would bring about such a situation when they would abandon Liberal principles as a pretence for the preservation of national interests which only serve the interests of the Labour Party in reality.

The saying of the fifties and sixties that Liberal members of Parliament can fit into one taxi to reach the House of Commons will now regrettably have to be rephrased to a bicycle made for TWO when the time comes when former supporters of Liberalism deliver their verdict at the next General Election. Yours sincerely, EDGAR FROMM, 63 Brookland Rise, Hampstead Garden Suburb, NW11, March 24.

From Mr D. G. McGill
Sir, In a true democracy the only body competent to decide the composition of the government is the electorate. It has been denied the choice. Yours faithfully, D. G. MCGILL, 15 Belsley Close, Croydon, March 24.

From Mrs E. T. S. Byass
Sir, Now we know exactly whom we have to blame for our continuing plight.

The further curtailment of personal freedom. The awful mountain of debts with which my innocent newly-born twin grandchildren will be saddled all their lives. The encouragement of envy and hatred. The wasting of money on totally

hopeless enterprises such as worker cooperatives and British Leyland. The lowering further still of standards of education and medicine. The close work with all its mindless cruelty. All this and more are now laid at the door of the time servers, the traitors, the back-stabbers, the squalid under-the-counter dealers—though they did not get much after all that—in fact the Liberals! Yours in horror and dismay, MARGARET BYASS, Billingham Lodge, 54 Cossington Road, Slough, Leicestershire, March 23.

From Mr J. E. Humphrey
Sir, Raised on the milk (gold top) of Gladstonian Liberalism, I am naturally dismayed that our latter-day Liberals should have thrown in their lot with a governing party which, arguably, has the worst record in living memory in matters of parliamentary life dealing the basic dignity of the individual and the rule of law.

But perhaps the Liberal MPs could yet manage not to conspire with their new bed-fellows in that falsehood about Mrs Thatcher (being disseminated systematically, with blatant engineering intent and before that last, but endorsed, manifesto, let alone been in office) that she is some sort of right-wing extremist. For the truth of it, as any fair-minded person must concede, is that Mrs Thatcher would operate within a set-up which, in a very comprehensive sort, and economically is, and will remain, a mixed economy with a hefty public sector—in short a political framework which, historically, is in the centre, if not rather leftish, for a parliamentary democracy, and which, if adopted by President Carter, would be regarded as radical to the point of revolution.

And, please, may we have no more of Mr Steel's mischievous nonsense—mischievous because the Liberal leader must surely know the truth of it—in suggesting that it was the prospect of Mrs Thatcher's policies that made the stock market tremble (his speech on the "no confidence" motion).

The market's tremors derived from fear of trade union, not Thatcher, policy—fear that the unions may not accept the verdict of the electorate if it happens to displease them. That fear, if it took substantial and inhibiting grip, would spell the end of our democracy: but the responsibility would not be with Mrs Thatcher.

Yours faithfully, J. E. HUMPHREY, 9 Offington Gardens, Worthing, Sussex, March 24.

From Mr Andrew R. E. Murray
Sir, Now that the controversy over the vote of confidence in her Majesty's Government is over, would this not be the appropriate time to reconsider the televising of parliamentary debates, even for a short experimental time? Surely, the in-

decision by members of the public about whether or not the Government should remain in power would be greatly alleviated when they had been able to make a reasoned decision for themselves with the aid of comprehensive television coverage. This is the only way that the country can appreciate the complexity of the present system in Parliament and it may have the added benefit of restoring much of the respectability of the House of Commons by showing what is really a muddled in the inter-party debates.

It is now the time to reawake the argument about the broadcasting of parliamentary proceedings while the members and the public can appreciate the advantages this would provide. Yours faithfully, ANDREW R. E. MURRAY, Chairman, Harrow East Young Conservatives, 26 Pangbourne Drive, Stammore, Middlesex.

From Mr George McWatters
Sir, Now that the threat of a immediate general election has been temporarily removed, many on sides of industry would like to see some form of bipartisan approach to industrial problems. The Industrial Act, the National Enterprise Board and Temporary Employment Schemes, amongst many other devices, all playing their part in the resurrection of British industry, would be a tragedy if a change of government brought any of these to an abrupt end.

For instance, the footwear manufacturing industry is likely to be temporarily removed, many on sides of industry would like to see some form of bipartisan approach to industrial problems. The Industrial Act, the National Enterprise Board and Temporary Employment Schemes, amongst many other devices, all playing their part in the resurrection of British industry, would be a tragedy if a change of government brought any of these to an abrupt end.

Though personally I am a staunch supporter of the Conservative cause, I feel there is a greater need within our party for the understanding of industry's problem. Too often one hears speakers refer to the industry as "the old inefficient industries and larders" without, in my view, a full understanding of, firstly, how arduous they may have become and secondly, and more important, how a diligent and consistent approach to policy, they can be made to succeed. Yours sincerely, GEORGE MCWATTERS, 17 Chester Terrace, Regent's Park, NW1, March 24.

From Mr W. J. Dymott
Sir, Who would have thought that a vote for Labour would turn out to be a vote for the Liberal Party. Yours faithfully, W. J. DYMOTT, 101, Laleham-on-Thames, Middlesex, March 24.

The 'Panorama' school

From Miss M. Turnbull
Sir, Why do we so often find we are unable to look a dangerous situation squarely in the face? Right up until the crunch comes we try to balance the good with the bad and finally overcome it. If we do not remove the rotten apple from the barrel all the apples will in the end become rotten.

So it is with education today. The "Panorama" (BBC television, March 21) programme revealed a school in which the curriculum was in, day out, and if it only occurred in ONE school it should be a cause for concern. The programme concentrated on a potentially very dangerous situation which we would be most unwise to ignore, to say the least. The burnt down classroom at Faraday Comprehensive School may or may not have had a connection with the "Panorama" programme, but it presents a very pungent comment.

If we are to stop the rot we must be perfectly honest with ourselves and have the humility to admit our failures. We must be honest enough even to revert to discarded methods of discipline and teaching where so-called "modern methods" are proving to be wrong. We must produce "rotten apples". Yours faithfully, M. TURNBULL, 3 Kipling Road, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire.

From Mr W. R. Page
Sir, Mrs Gitt-Wood (Letters, March 29) applauds the "Panorama" programme because, she says, it is a timely condemnation of comprehensive schooling.

I see it quite differently—as a condemnation of bad teaching. And bad teaching can take place in any sort of school.

As an old teacher, I felt profoundly sorry for both the teachers and the students shown: teachers making all the mistakes I myself made in my first year, and students reacting no better than they did in my day. (And no worse.)

We learnt to cope with difficult classes by trial and error and from the advice of sympathetic and experienced colleagues. We could have had more warnings from our training colleges, but controlling a class can only be learnt in a classroom by doing.

I was 40 when I began teaching and, naturally, maturity helped—though it did not prevent the making of mistakes. Should not all teachers have, say, five years' experience of some other job before starting training? The teachers in the film looked so young. Where were the senior teachers?

Yours etc, W. R. PAGE, 74 Antrim Mansions, Antrim Road, NW3.

From Mr and Mrs Kenneth F. W. Doughty
Sir, The main criticism directed against the recent "Panorama" film on comprehensive schools has been that it was unfair and selective to show the more difficult

classes being taken by the less experienced teachers. The questions which were asked are why such classes are left to the weaker staff and whether the impression left by the film was a fair one.

In our experience as former teachers in comprehensive schools it is normal practice for some heads of department to adopt just this attitude, reserving the better and more disciplined classes for the senior staff whilst leaving the new entrants to the profession to manage as best they can with the more difficult classes.

Unless and until this attitude is reversed the general standard of discipline of the more difficult classes will never be raised, and the scene shown in the film will continue to be typical of many schools.

In our opinion the film was a very fair reflection of life in some comprehensive schools, particularly in the contrast shown between the sympathetic attitude of the more experienced staff in their pastoral activities and the appalling lack of understanding shown by their less able colleagues.

Yours etc, PATRICIA M. DOUGHTY, KENNETH F. W. DOUGHTY, Vessux House, Lockerley, Romsey, Hampshire, March 25.

From Mrs John Badenoch
Sir, I was not at a boys' school or at a mixed school, but I wonder how many girls there are, from any type of girls' school, who cannot remember at least one occasion of chaos in class. Yours faithfully, ANNE BADENOCH, 123 Woodstock Road, Oxford, March 23.

Seal culling

From Mr D. E. Christopherson
Sir, I was interested to read the letter on seal culling by J. K. Hillier in today's *The Times*, in which he defended it by saying that for the past 200 years it has been part of the Newfoundland culture, and "the necessary rite de passage for all young men". How terribly sad that this should be so. Surely the sooner it dies from their culture the better, and the dignity of these young men no longer be utterly degraded in the view of so many people.

It was heartening to see recently on a television documentary about the splendid islanders of Ulster, who for many years traditionally hunted the seals, now no longer do so.

The stature of the young men of Newfoundland would be a great shame if many people if they would give up this utterly barbaric custom. Yours faithfully, D. E. CHRISTOPHERSON, Red Cottage, Dornaghs Park, East, Grinstead, Sussex.

Rabies risk

From Dr Donald Gould
Sir, In your issue of Wednesday (March 16) you reported two additional and seemingly needless causes for distress which have been imposed upon the parents of Ayub Khan, the Pakistani boy, who died of rabies in Bradford last Sunday.

They have been refused permission to fly the body to Pakistan because of the risk of infection, and, for the same reason, they were forbidden to hold a funeral at a local mosque. Your item stated that "Only close relatives who have been vaccinated" were to be allowed to attend a short service arranged in lieu of the wished-for mosque ceremony.

Speaking on the "World At One" last Monday, Dr Mike Priestman, the local Community Health Officer, was asked "What is the position of the people with whom

he (the rabies victim) has been mixing?"

He replied "Their position is of total safety. This is not a virus which spreads in the way in which other viruses, like the 'flu virus or the smallpox virus, does. This is no risk to them at all... They are absolutely safe from rabies whatever. None at all to so human or any animal in the country."

So who's trying to fool who? ask this question not in order to score a point, but because it is important that the "rabidophobia" now infecting this country should not be allowed to provoke unnecessary measures which disrupt people's lives more drastically than the disease itself.

DONALD GOULD, 15 Waterbeach Road, Landbeach, Cambridgeshire, March 16.

Trade with Japan

From Mr Roderick MacFarquhar, MP for Belper (Labour)
Sir, I agree with much of the argument in the letter from Mr R. P. Bower (March 19) about trade with Japan, particularly with his point that there must be a "balance of opportunity" that is to say competitive western commodities must have the same chance of entering the Japanese domestic market as Japanese goods have in entering ours.

The most salient fact about Japan as a trading nation is that only about 20 per cent of her imports are manufactured goods, whereas the figure is roughly 50 per cent in the case of the other industrialized democracies. This discrepancy can only marginally be attributed to Japan's virtually total dependence on imported raw materials.

But may I also raise one further legitimate western grievance? Japan is also among the major industrialized democracies in having no significant defence burden; she is thus able to devote virtually all her considerable talents and resources to civilian industrial output. Few would want to press Japan

to alter her current defence policy but it is surely legitimate to ask her to consider assuming an equivalent burden in liaison.

Concretely, I would suggest that Japan should consider increasing her present very small aid burden of approximately 0.2 per cent of GNP. Initially, a rise of 50 per cent on this figure should easily be obtainable and I do not think unrealistic to ask the Japanese to think eventually in the terms of figure of 2 per cent plus of GNP.

Hopefully, the bulk of an increase would be directed towards south Asia where the need is greatest and Japan's previous record somewhat weak. Hopefully too, there would be no attempt to link any such increase of aid to purchases of Japanese goods since this could serve only to exacerbate the present trade difficulties between Japan and the west.

What does seem likely is if such a policy were implemented it would help south Asia, it would improve Japan-EEC relations, and it would increase Japanese prestige. Yours faithfully, RODERICK MACFARQUHAR, House of Commons, March 21.

Rowing at Oxford

From Mr Robert Mason
Sir, In reply to A. R. C. Westlake's letter on March 24, I would like to clarify some points about Oxford University and its Boat Club which seem to have led to a number of misunderstandings.

Firstly, and perhaps unfortunately for the cause of rowing, students are admitted to the university only if they are of a certain academic standard. This rules out any possibility of offering "rowing scholarships". Secondly, only the individual decides whether or not to row for his or her college and for the university, there being no compulsion to do either even if the individual is of international standard.

It is a fact that, whether the standard of rowing in the event merits

it or not, the Boat Race attracts more publicity than any other single rowing competition in the world. This in itself, quite substantially furthers the cause of rowing. I debate standards in such an ever by omitting any oarsman from the trials simply because he has graduated and rowed elsewhere would be more harmful to the cause than the raising of the average age of the competitors.

Thirdly, therefore, Oxford (as Cambridge) will continue simply to include the best eight available rowers in their university crew on Boat Race day. Yours faithfully, ROBERT MASON, President, Oxford University Boat Club, Keble College, Oxford, March 24.

SPORT

Old-fashioned way can lead Durr to new triumph

By Michael Seely

That dynamic 50-year-old Cambridgehire farmer, Frank Durr, can win his first Irish sweepstakes Lincoln Handicap (2.55) on Rhodanthe at Doncaster this afternoon. During his long and successful career, most of the major handicaps have fallen to this immensely strong, light-weight rider and the Lincoln Handicap appears to be the perfect vehicle for landing Durr the first leg of the Spring double.

Last year Rhodanthe showed consistent form in this type of company after running unplaced in last year's Lincoln behind The Hertford, whom he meets on 10 lb better terms at Doncaster. Durr's best performance in the early part of the season came when he beat Marquis de Sade and Camador in the Yellow Pages Cup at Sandown Park last May.

But it was only when he encountered heavy going in the winter that Rhodanthe started to show his true mettle. At Haydock Park in October, the colt gave a comfortable lead to the favourite, a useful three-year-old, Yel-laby, and that other mudlark, Jane's Joker. A week later at York, he was again unbeaten, and he was the only horse to win the St. James's Palace Handicap at Doncaster last year.

Frank Durr: chance of a life-time.

Rhodanthe appears reasonably well-treated today.

His Marlborough trainer has given the six-year-old an old-fashioned preparation. Three times he has been taken away from home to work, twice at Maunton and once on Toby Baldry's gallops at Westhill. Favourably drawn at 13 and with the ground still riding dead, Rhodanthe should be hard to beat this afternoon.

Also drawn under the favoured standard is the auto-post favourite, Fiddler. After being gelded last summer, Fiddler started to show what he was capable of. In the second of his two victories, Harry Wragg's three-year-old, a valuable handicap at Haydock in decisive style, just before that he had covered himself with glory when finishing close to the winner, the favourite, in the Cambridge Stakes.

Reported by our Newmarket man to have been shining at his work on the Heath, Fiddler is a desperately hard event to win first time out and under top weight. It is only because Miss Fiddler's best form has been shown over seven furlongs that I prefer Rhodanthe to him.

Spade Guinea was high in the weights all last season after winning the Cornhill Stakes at York as a two-year-old. Consequently,



Frank Durr: chance of a life-time.

despite several smart performances, he failed to win a race, but has now been lowered to the weights. His trainer, Bill Marshall, will have derived immense encouragement from the success of Rhodanthe on Thursday, and also from the fact that the second to Zoraster yesterday afternoon. There is a great deal of quiet confidence behind Spade Guinea's chance.

Golden Aim was strongly fancied to capture this event last year for Peter Robinson and he was storming race from a bad draw to finish eighth, beaten about four lengths. The Yellow God colt is a bit of a dodgy customer, but has spent some time recently with Josh Gifford at Fiddler in the hope that a change of scenery might brighten his outlook on life. Our Newmarket Correspondent says that a change of scenery has been working with great zest. This trainer has few peers at the art of retraining horses, and he has been working with great zest. This trainer has few peers at the art of retraining horses, and he has been working with great zest.

Both Brian Swift's pair, The Hertford and Nearly Nine, are sure to go well. Edward Hyde rides that the best of the four-year-olds, Lady, who has been working well at Middleham. There has been good money for another Epsom challenger, The Nadi Royale, and also for Blister, and Fleur d'Amour. The 1974 winner, Fleur d'Amour, who finished second last year, is heavily handicapped but has been showing little enthusiasm at

home. I am content to rely on Rhodanthe, who seems bound to give his backers a good run for their money.

Last season's consistent two-year-old, Crown Bowler, who finished third to The Nadi Royale in the Dewhurst Stakes, is taken to beat. Despite his low draw his chance must be respected again, as apparently the plan is to let him lay off the track his way over towards the stands rails.

Yamadori is another animal with a mind of his own and he will ally take a long time to warm to his work. The only time he was galvanized into early action last season was when Fuke Johnson, Haughton's wife, Gale, climbed aboard at Ascot. But during a long and arduous campaign Yamadori continued to show John Haughton gives him an undeniable opportunity at the weight. If Willie Arson can get him going, Yamadori is sure to be in at the finish.

Air Trooper, whose trainer, Bill Whigham, must have gained confidence from the four-year-old's galloping companion, The Goldstone, coming a creditable third to Zoraster, can receive some consolation for being handicapped out of the Lincoln, by winning the first round of the Crown Plus Two apprentice championship (1.45). John Haughton, a Brockley winner, Line Grove,



Peter Makin: sent his charge away from home.

At Doncaster yesterday, Oats and Pat Edworthy galloped to their expected easy victory.

STATE OF GOING: Doncaster: Good to soft. Newbury: Steeplechase: Good to soft. Sandown: Good to soft. York: Good to soft. Doncaster: Good to soft. Newbury: Steeplechase: Good to soft. Sandown: Good to soft. York: Good to soft.

Fort Devron relieved of Aintree burden

By Michael Phillips

Racing Correspondent

Fuke Waiwyn has decided not to ask the crack American steeplechaser, Fort Devron to carry 12st in the Grand National at Aintree next Saturday. So the top weight this year, 12st 10lb, will again be carried by Red Fox.

Waiwyn told me yesterday that Fort Devron is well following his fall in the Gold Cup at Cheltenham last week and that he jumped well when he was schooled over fences on the Downs above Lambourn on Thursday. But jumping those sort of fences is one thing, jumping around Liverpool is another. Waiwyn thinks it would be unwise to ask Fort Devron to saddle him to run with only four races in England behind him. "Far better to wait a year," was the message. Since Waiwyn is an American owner, Charles Bird, who readily agreed.

Although Fort Devron will not be sent to Liverpool, we have not heard the last of him this season. He is to run next at Chesham on Easter Monday in the Welsh Champion Steeplechase and then at Sandown Park in the Whitbread Gold Cup.

Waiwyn and Bill Smith are still convinced that Fort Devron had have won the Gold Cup had he

not fallen six fences from home. "I was only cantering at the time," they say as they held their case. Half an hour later the two men derived some small consolation when Gay Valgan won the National Hunt Handicap Steeplechase.

The decision not to run Fort Devron at Aintree means that Smith will now be free to ride Gay Valgan in the National. With five consecutive successes to his name this season Gay Valgan is one of the most improved steeplechasers in training; and he proved that he has the stamina for the job when he won the Bass Steeplechase over four miles at Cheltenham on New Year's Day.

Another horse who is likely to command a big following at Liverpool next Saturday will be the American steeplechaser, Water Rain and his objective, the Kencot Handicap Steeplechase at Newbury, where his trainer and owner, Charles Bird, have a good chance of winning the Steeplechase. Water Rain was sent to Sandown on Monday at Wolverhampton and Gay Sparan took the Sun Alliance Steeplechase at Cheltenham.

Doncaster programme

[Television (IBA): 1.45, 2.15 and 2.55 races]

1.45 CROWN PLUS TWO APPRENTICE CHAMPIONSHIP

(Handicap; £1,350; 1m 2f 50yd)

101	214000	Ambergris (S. Bury), G. Harwood, 4-9-10	A. Cressy	8
102	214000	Ambergris (S. Bury), G. Harwood, 4-9-10	A. Cressy	8
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2.15 FURNITURE FACTORS STAKES (3-y-o; £2,532; 1m)

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2.55 LINCOLN HANDICAP (£7,691; 1m)

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

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Personal investment and finance, pages 18 and 19

Terms ready for bond issue to foreign holders of sterling balances

By David Blake

Economics Correspondent

What will amount to a detailed prospectus for the new issue of government bonds to overseas holders of "sterling balances" now looks likely to be sent out in the week after the Budget statement on Tuesday.

Final details of the bonds, which are to be issued under the terms of the "safety-net" agreed inside this year, are being settled by officials after consultations with sterling balance holders.

Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, visited Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to discuss the scheme with the governments of those countries.

About 75 per cent of the bonds will be issued in United States dollars, with Deutsche marks, Swiss franc and Japanese yen denominations also available in smaller amounts.

The term of the bonds could run between 5 and 10 years, depending on demand, though it is possible that term will be restricted to 6 to 9 years. Many of the bonds may be for 7 years. Government officials say the decision has been taken about how many bonds will be sold to the official sterling holders,

who held \$2,203m (nearly £1,300m) at the end of last year. However, Continental Central bankers have said that at recent sessions of the Bank for International Settlements in Basle Britain indicated around \$1,000m in the first instance.

Whitehall officials suggest that this figure has no particular significance.

It may be, however, that other countries see this a reasonable level of sales.

The bonds are being sold very much at the suggestion of other industrialized countries who wanted a "funding" of the sterling balances to be part of any package deal. They are committed to put up money as a medium-term loan to the United Kingdom to cover any drain on our reserves caused by an outflow of sterling balances. Thus, the more bonds sold to balance-holders the less countries such as Germany and the United States will have to put up.

The bonds are expected to be negotiable but not marketable. The distinction is that no effort will be made by the Government to set up a market where they can be bought and sold.

The interest rate will be closely related to that being paid in the market on other borrowing.

Tate may spread jobs loss over three years

By Ronald Emiler and Ray Moughan

Shop stewards within the Tate & Lyle sugar group were given details yesterday of the company's rationalization plans. These follow the controversial takeover of Manbré & Garton.

The company has refused to disclose the plans until Monday, but sources were suggesting last night that any redundancies would be phased over three years and some could be offset by offering employees jobs in other spheres of Tate & Lyle's operations.

This emerged on the same day that International Stores, the retailing subsidiary of BAT Industries, has agreed to sell its tea blending and packaging business, Ridgways, to Tate & Lyle.

Both Manbré and Tate had been discussing the industry's rationalization with successive governments for more than five years before the takeover. The newly merged interests have six refineries in the United Kingdom.

The price to be paid for Ridgways is still subject to audit; but it is understood that Tate will be paying between £11.5m and £13.5m in return for fixed assets and stock shown in the September balance sheets at £1.93m.

The deal will end International's interest in manufacturing, but earlier plans for development were changed by the first sale of the Street, London, headquarters at the end of 1975. The staff was advised last August that a move to Enfield was under consideration, but the proposed purchase by the sugar refining group will eventually entail the transfer of production and administration to Liverpool. About 150-175 jobs within Ridgways payroll of 200 are understood to be involved in the move to the North-West.

Mr G. Latham, joint managing director of International Stores, said yesterday: "We believe that Tate can do far more than we can to develop Ridgways." Tate's particular strengths, he thought, centred on selling, management and distribution.

Tate takes the view that tea is a grocery product that fits well with its sugar and syrups. It hopes to expand Ridgways' exports of £1m of tea a year.

Also, the purchase offers Tate an opportunity to bring new jobs to Liverpool and, as promised, help to cut some of the redundancies arising from the acquisition of Manbré & Garton.

The Tate & Lyle refinery at Liverpool is one of the port refineries over which a question mark has been hanging since the merger. The loss of refining at Liverpool would affect employment directly and indirectly by reduced traffic through Liverpool docks.

Meantime, Ridgways' staff is to be offered alternative employment in Tate's London plants.

£30m Leyland NEB loan authorized

By Edward Townsend

Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, announced yesterday that he had authorized the payment of a promised £30m loan to British Leyland. This brings the amount of investment finance borrowed from public sources by the company in the past year to £80m.

The £30m facility, provided under section 8 of the Industry Act, was approved by Parliament last August as part of the initial £100m loan proposed under the terms of the new threatened Ryder plan for restructuring the company.

Of the remaining £70m, British Leyland has drawn £50m in two tranches from the National Enterprise Board, which obtains the capital on its own account from the National Fund.

The company had until the end of the fiscal year next week to draw the £30m, and has clearly delayed until the last moment because of the lower interest rates on loans it has obtained from foreign and non-public United Kingdom sources.

The final instalment of £20m from the NEB can only be taken up by Leyland providing proof of need, which it is expected to do within the next few weeks.

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Ryder plan, envisaging £1,400m of investment from public sources by 1980-81, with at least another £1,000m generated by the company.

Leyland is due to apply for the next tranche of NEB funds in midsummer, but the amount, £20m, is now in doubt as the searching reviews of the Leyland plan by the NEB, the Department of Industry and the company itself get under way. Treasury officials are also being kept informed of progress.

The reviews are likely to result in a significant scaling down of the Ryder plan. It is also known that important changes to the company's management structure are under consideration.

Provision of future funds by the NEB, under its chairman Lord Ryder, will be studied in the light of the company's success in achieving a sustained and high rate of productivity. This week, under near normal working conditions, Leyland will be able to show that it can return rapidly to a healthy level of output.

In the past five days it is believed that the company's car assembly lines have matched the January weekly average output figure of 17,500 vehicles. By the middle of next week, barring any further disruption, the company should be producing cars at 20,000 a week, the target set last year to avoid the Government's "drastic review" of the car division operations.

There are also hopes that the long-awaited Leyland spending on new machine

tools may soon begin. The Machine Tool Trades Association, which recently made strong representations to the company for a clear indication of future requirements, has been told that orders will start flowing between now and June.

Clifford Webb writes: A departure of senior shop stewards from Leyland Cars' Rover plant at Solihull yesterday asked for management help to recall workers who have refused to cross picket lines over the past two days.

Advertisements were placed in local newspapers last night informing all Rover employees that a strike by 60 Range Rover engine assemblers was unofficial and the pickets were operating without union authority.

Today the 63 members of the unofficial toolmakers' committee, are meeting in Birmingham to decide their response to the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' offer of half the seats on the union's six-man delegation to serve on the new working group which will represent all Leyland manual unions in talks with management.

Albion switch: A major reorganization at British Leyland's Albion plant, in Scotland, Glasgow, has been approved by the 3,000-strong labour force. After reequipping, the plant is to become the Truck and Bus Group's major supplier of gearboxes, rear axles and suspension units. Hundreds of jobs will be created in the long term.

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Treasury 'star' going to Bank of England

By John Whitmore

Financial Correspondent

Mr David Walker, one of the rising young stars at the Treasury, is to move to the Bank of England this summer as a Chief Adviser and prospective Chief of the Economic Intelligence Department.

His appointment as Chief of the EID takes effect on the retirement early next year of Mr Michael Thornton and is one of a number of new appointments announced by the Bank.

While it is clear that Mr Walker's recruitment means that a number of internal candidates have been overrudden, there appear to be no grounds for supposing that his appointment has been foisted on the Bank as part of any Whitehall campaign to increase Treasury influence in the Threadneedle Street.

Mr Walker, aged 37, is an Assistant Secretary in the Overseas Finance division of the Treasury. Having gained a double first in economics at Cambridge, he joined the Treasury in 1961. He spent five months on secondment to the Bank in 1966 and from 1970-73 was seconded to the International Monetary Fund in Washington.

The other significant appointments are those of Mr R. D. Galvin, who is to become Chief of Establishments—effectively running the Bank's administration—in early 1978, and of Mr E. A. J. George, who moves up from being an Adviser, Overseas Department, to become a Deputy Chief Cashier.

Mr Galvin is a Deputy Chief Cashier and in charge of the Banking and Money Market Supervision division. He also has prime responsibility for the Bank's relations with the London Discount Market Association. These responsibilities will pass to another Deputy Chief Cashier, Mr A. L. Coleby.

A further appointment is that of Mr Anthony Loebl, a director of merchant bankers J. Hambro & Co., to be an Adviser to the Governor.

Mr Loebl's work with Mr Richardson while the latter was a Schroder director and his new role seems likely to be that of an adviser without portfolio. Mr Richardson already has a number of Chief Advisers.

Other changes announced by the Bank include the following: Mr C. A. E. Goodhart, an Adviser, Economics Intelligence Department, to be a Chief Adviser; Mr Richard Rich, a Deputy Chief of the Overseas Department, to be an Adviser Overseas Department; Mr G. J. MacGillivray, an Adviser Overseas Department, to be First Deputy Chief of the Overseas Department.

Mr D. G. Holland, a Deputy Chief of the Economics Intelligence Department, to be a Deputy Chief of the Overseas Department; Mr L. A. Dickson, a Deputy Chief of the EID, to be a Deputy Chief of the EID (from October 30); Mr A. T. Bell, an Adviser, Overseas Department, to move to the EID with a view to taking charge of the Industrial Finance Unit (from August 19).

Mr R. Wilson, an Assistant Chief Cashier, to move to the Administration Department with a view to assuming responsibility for press relations from Mr G. L. B. Morgan, who will be moving to other duties in the Bank.

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Minister seeks CBI help for prices board

By Patricia Tisdall

Confederation of British Industry

A plea to the Confederation of British Industry to cooperate in setting up new price control machinery was made by Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, last night.

In a conciliatory reply to CBI criticisms of the Government's proposals for new price curbs, Mr Hattersley said he hoped their reservations would not stop the CBI from cooperating in the establishment of the right sort of Price Commission.

The proposals, outlined in a consultative document released last month, included widening the powers of the Price Commission and provoked sharp opposition from the CBI.

Among other things the new price freeze machinery with which the Government is hoping to replace the present system on August 1 would give the commission considerable discretionary powers.

The chairman of the new-looking Price Commission is considered a key figure in a flexible structure, and among the names

speculated is Sir Campbell Adamson, the former director-general of the CBI.

He already had some names in mind, he said, and he would like to make an announcement at the same time as he presented a Bill in the Commons.

"My fear is that the CBI will look at the proposals more in terms of theology rather than practicality," he said.

Under Mr Hattersley's consultative proposals, the Commission would have the powers to initiate inquiries into pricing practices on its own initiative.

Following such an investigation it would have the ability to freeze a price rise application for up to three months. The Prices Secretary would then have to extend the freeze for up to a year.

Among the CBI's objections to the proposals is the duration of the price restraint order after a commission investigation. It wants the extension to be no more than six months.

Further opposition to the proposals came yesterday from Mr Rector Laing, chairman of the Food and Drink Industry Council.

These were the sort of figures that the IMF was intent upon obtaining, but "absolutely no firm commitments" had yet been won from the three largest and foreign branches of American banks totalling \$207,000m (£114,500m).

According to informed international monetary sources there is a broad acceptance among governments of the Group of Ten central banks that the leading international private banks will have to continue to play the prime role in providing loans to support the oil-related payments deficits of most countries.

They stress that new International Monetary Fund efforts in this area may at best permit the private banks to modify the scale of their new foreign lending.

Negotiations aiming at creating a new source of funds for the IMF are proceeding ahead, but no details have been agreed so far. The sources said it was unrealistic to suggest that new arrangements would definitely produce some \$15,000m to \$20,000m.

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OECD sees Britain as oil exporter

Paris, March 25.—Britain's annual energy consumption could grow to more than 280 million tonnes of oil equivalent by 1985, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development said today.

The forecast, just released, appears in an appendix to the OECD's annual survey of Britain's economic prospects, published last week.

Annual oil flow from the United Kingdom continental shelf could rise to just over 10 million tonnes by 1980 and some 45 million by 1985 from 12 million last year, the OECD says.

North Sea oil production would thus be equivalent to some 40 per cent of total energy needs in 1980 and 45-55 per cent in 1985, enabling Britain to cover all its needs from domestic sources.

The OECD said it envisaged an even division between North Sea oil for domestic use and for export.

Such a split would make the United Kingdom a net oil exporter but it would still import some 10 million tonnes of oil in 1985, amounting to 25 per cent of its total expected energy requirement.

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PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Pensions

Are you likely to get an increase?

If you are a member of a scheme whose trustees have the power to increase pension that are being paid out when and to whatever extent they wish—within broad limits—you will have to look beyond the explanatory booklet, or the rules for that matter, to assess your prospects of maintaining living standards in retirement.

The best guide to the future is what has happened in the past. If there have been no increases it would be unreasonable to expect that the future holds any different prospect. If there have been increases awarded from time to time, it is important to know how frequently reviews are carried out.

Some schemes are run on a basis which is quite deliberately intended to produce resources sufficient to increase pensions after they start to be paid. You are not likely to be able to discover whether this is the situation in your scheme except by looking at results.

The only place where it is apparent what financial arrangements are made for the scheme is in the actuary's report, which is not normally made available to the members, and if it is very well be technical that it confuses rather than clarifies.

If the scheme does not set out in advance to finance pension increases, it will be able to do so only if there have been fortuitous profits, or if the employer has put in additional contributions. Many schemes have shown profits in the past because of staff turnover, but this source is much less significant now, because the new legislation about rights on leaving service requires that members leaving should be given benefits in respect of their service.

Investment profits are the other major source of spare cash and some schemes have performed consistently well and thus provided for pension revaluation. More recently, however, investment conditions have been very unfavourable, and investment managers have been hard pressed to maintain the solvency of their schemes without additional support from the employer.

On top of all this, pay increases have put an additional strain on most pension schemes, leaving less prospect still of finding the money to increase pensions out of unbudgeted surplus.

Some employers are much more open about their scheme's finances than others and you may find that your scheme authorities are prepared to talk about the means of financing adopted; particularly in the schemes of larger employers you are quite likely to find that there are even member representatives on the scheme's governing body, and there are no secrets at all.

On the other hand, particularly in a small firm, the employer may not disclose the basis on which the scheme is being financed; at the same time, if the scheme is run by an insurance company, and on the whole it is the smaller schemes which are insured, it is likely that there will be an explicit mention of increases if they are allowed for.

In most insured schemes pension increases are at a fixed annual rate, but there are four or five insurance companies which offer a basis by which the rate of increase is linked to investment results. The members' booklet will normally make this clear.

The modern trend is towards the provision of more extensive information for scheme members and last year the government produced a White Paper setting out proposed legislation on the subject, following a report from the Occupational Pensions Board.

Against this, the technicalities of pension scheme funding are so complex that they may be incomprehensible or, worse, misleading, without lay and detailed explanation. Most schemes—and the Government's proposals—stop short of the publication of actuarial reports for this reason. This is one area where you are probably better advised to avoid jumping to conclusions on your own.

Eric Brunet

Investment trusts

Standard bid opens way for more

No less than two alternative suitors presented themselves for Standard Trust this week, and the week before Commercial Union bid for Estates House.

This renewal of activity in the investment trust sector is welcome. Share prices have tended to hang fire since February, once the initial excitement of the British Rail Pension Fund offer for Standard Trust was over.

Indeed, it looked at one point as though a combination of the rather ungenerous offer from the pension fund and the highly defensive posture of Touche, Remnant, Standard's managers, might well dissuade other potential customers from attempting any further takeovers elsewhere in the sector. There have been false dawns in the past.

But the paper and cash alternative offers from Commercial Union and the Prudential for Standard have set the tone for agreed bids in the sector. Commercial Union valued Estates House at asset value and although the Prudential has allowed for capital gains tax liabilities, it has none the less plumped for a significantly more generous cash offer than British Rail, which deducted both this and the dollar premium surrender in arriving at its price.

The British Rail Pension Fund, as someone rather unkindly remarked, can go back to its art collections, where such complicated formulae do not apply. What is clear is that BRPF, or any other bidder, is going to have to pay the full price for the investment trusts it has in its sights.

Assessing bids for both the bidder and the recipient is a complex business. It is hard on the managers like Touche.

Even if they feel that a bid, such as one from BRPF, is too low, it is difficult to justify resistance, knowing that if it is rejected the shares will return to their traditional discount on assets.

Different bidders have different objectives, and three basic ones have now emerged. The purpose for the British Rail bid was to acquire a stable equity portfolio that would otherwise be difficult and expensive to build up. On this basis it was clearly rather mean to make a deduction for the dollar premium surrender when there was no intention, indeed quite the reverse, to sell the portfolio.

Schlesinger's rather surprise approach to Standard earlier this week opened up another possibility. The idea was to absorb Standard Trust into the group's unit trust stable with investors swapping their shares for units.

For a fairly modest unit trust operation such as Schlesinger's a bid for an investment trust is a quick and reasonably inexpensive way of increasing the size of funds under management.

For the private shareholder who wishes to remain invested and has no objection to unit trusts there is no liability to capital gains tax on the share exchange. But institutional shareholders do not like the idea (Schlesinger was apparently prepared for 50 per cent sales after unitization).

The bulk of the investment trust industry is against unitization and the Schlesinger approach obviously requires the cooperation of the investment trust board. Investment trust managers are capable of unifying their trusts themselves if they want to, and preserving funds under their own management is as happening with Rothschild's New Court European investment trust.

But Schlesinger, or any other similarly ambitious fund management group, might well consider an approach to one of the several stable independent groups in the investment trust stable where there is no management company with a vested interest in maintaining funds under its own control.

The agreed bids from the Prudential for Standard and Commercial Union for Estates House clearly knock on the head the notion that a

bidder needs to have tucked a fair bit of money under his belt before launching a takeover. The sector would therefore seem wide open, as never before.

Apart from unitization, what can the investment trust managers do, without indulging in a defensive network of cross-holdings or mammoth mergers for which they have been roundly condemned in the past?

Now that the pressure is clearly on, some stockbrokers and merchant bankers are canvassing their investment trust clients with proposals to launch convertible loan stocks as a

solution to some of the industry's most urgent problems. Dissatisfaction with investment trusts springs from the discount and the oversupply of investment trust shares. One way of looking at the problem is to say that the market capitalization of the investment trust sector is simply too large in relation to the amount of money chasing it.

Unlike a unit trust an investment trust cannot buy its own shares, but there is nothing to prevent it from buying its own deferred equity, in the form of convertible stock. It is perhaps a cumbersome weapon, but none the less one which would enable the industry to contract itself in an orderly manner instead of being forced to wait, like sitting ducks, for others to do the job for them.

For a normal trust it would involve issuing convertible stock at par by way of rights on the ordinary shares, but trust itself would be a buyer on the stock fell to a certain discount on assets. With a rights issue on a one-for-one basis, for instance, the capitalization of ordinary shares in issue would be reduced by half.

In addition, the convertible route should provide a mechanism for preventing the discount on the ordinary shares falling through the floor, since it would give the managers ability in the market to prevent the sort of talisman that investment trust shares find themselves in once the market generally shows signs of weakness.

There is also section 29 (6), Finance Act 1965 which tells us that if at any time in the period of ownership there is a change in what is occupied as the individual's residence, whether on account of a reconstruction or conversion of a building or for any other reason, the relief from CGT may be adjusted in such a manner as the Commissioners concerned may consider to be just and reasonable.

So there is a possibility that what this reader proposes to do will attract some capital gains tax.

On capital transfer tax a reader says that his main assets are his home and an investment property. He wants to make use of the £2,000 annual exemption in this way.

"I have asked my solicitor how a slice valued £2,000 can be given to one of my grandchildren each year, of either one or the other property, and his reply is by a simple form of deed of gift, which attracts no stamp duty. At the end of the time when the total value of one fixed property has been given away in slices the donor confirms that a conveyance duly stamped for the total value will have to be drawn and executed."

"Is this annual deed of gift, for the slices of £2,000, the proper manner in which it should be done, and can you refer me to a precedent form for this purpose? Do you confirm my solicitor's advice?"

"I do not like disagreeing with a solicitor on the subject of conveyancing because he knows a lot more about it than I do. But looking at the proposed transactions from a tax point of view, to be an effective gift for CTT there has to be a 'disposition' by the donor as a result of which the value of his estate immediately after the disposition is less than it would be but for the disposition" (section 20, Finance Act 1975).

The word disposition is not defined in the Act, but applies in its ordinary meaning to cover the payment of money, the conveyance and transfer of property and creation of settlements.

It seems to me that there is no actual passing of property in the suggested arrangement to make the gift effective. When the title to the property is transferred by a conveyance there will be a gift at that time and at that value. However, I may have overlooked a subtlety in the proposals and if

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HOW THE SECTOR HAS BEEN WARMING UP

1976 September
Trafalgar House bids for Direct Spanish Telegraph.
Edward du Cann and others acquires 43 per cent of First Talsman.

Scottish and Second Scottish Investment Trusts merger.
November
Proposed amalgamation of Menap Investment Trust with Cabot Unit Trust.

Proposed merger of Telephone & General and Temple Bar Investment Trusts.

S. Pearson makes cast offer for Embankment Investment Trust.

1977 January
British Rail Pension Fund bids for Standard Trust.
SPR Investments considers unitization.

Cable and Globe Investment Trusts propose a merger.

They want to, and preserving funds under their own management is as happening with Rothschild's New Court European investment trust.

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Bricolage bids for Menteith Investment Trust.

New Court European Trust proposes unitization.
Arbuthnot Latham takes over Janion Bank's Leda and Journe Investment Trusts.

February
Guinness Pear bids for London Electric & General Investment Trust.
Simonside Investment Trust announces proposals for liquidation.

March
Tricentral bids for Ashmole Investment Trust.

Dayway Day bids for Floreax Investment Trust.

Commercial Union bids for Estates House.

London & Scottish America and United States Debenture propose merger.

Schlesinger proposes unitization of Standard Trust.

Prudential emerges as third bidder for Standard Trust.

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Stock markets

Pye's second-half rally regains lost ground

25th March, 1977

Discount market

to the Parliament

It could well be that the team they were drawing up in Bill could well last for two even three European elections for 10 or 15 years. It was essential to get it right, but in general it is right that they must be

the end of the day with what virtually a fait accompli by Government," either you or this or you lose the Bill."

Mr Richard Mitchell (Southport, Itchen, Lab) said that ever the legislation was, would not get it through as a gullotine. He hoped it would be a fair play that the Leader of the Opposition would not start playing and arguing the constitution issue. If she wanted the legislation she would have to support gullotine.

It was essential to the hopes of this country that the Government should not get on by the way of

North, Lab) said he was ashamed supporter of the

we shall have broken a pledge to this House, to the country, and to our colleagues in the Nine.

Mr Jeremy Thorpe (North Devon, Exeter and Bristol) had got an extra seat in the European Parliament for the future for Northern Ireland on the basis that three seats, rather than two, were more likely to give a balance representative of the Roman Catholic element.

Supposing that the Roman Catholic community had got a third of the support, was there any guarantee that they would get the post that they would get a third of the seats? No, so the

of direct elections. We go to the country (he said) and the country has been saying that there is no need for extending the democratic of direct accountability European Parliament as a body to four members in order to check the national, regionally supranational, ex-cu stronger European Parliament itself vis-à-vis the state and the citizen.

He wanted to see a draft form of the second chamber; there was an argument for having the House of Lords

1976 TT	1976 TT	1976 TT	1976 TT	1976 TT	1976 TT
thought	the	could	get	away	with
it.	He	thought	it	had	been
dropped					
					Mr Douglas Burr, an Oppos
					shopkeeper, said that the
					shop

[illegible][illegible]

Mr Bryan Good (Southampton, Test Lab) raised in the adjournment debate the avalanche of protest letters which he had received from constituents denouncing a sordid and shameful catalogue of incidents during the Manchester United football match at Southampton in the F.A Cup on February 26.

It was thought to be possible to restrict the sale of away match tickets perhaps to the town of Southampton, to prohibit coach travel for supporters to be licensed, for consumption of alcohol by coaches, and for coaches to arrive and depart an hour before the start and after the end of the matches.

It was said that the Government had suffered damages from incidents arising out of such matches to the extent of £100,000. The police authorities under the 1886 Riot Damages Act. They would be enormous enough to place such incidents in the same category as the Government would be compelled to take some action.

Mr Rymond John, Minister of State, Home Office, said the Home Secretary would be in conference with chief officers of police mainly responsible for measures to combat disorder. Mr John also collected from other departments had also met representatives of the Football Associations.

It was thought that the matter was best sorted out by those most closely concerned with the clubs, supporters' clubs and transport undertakings.

It was suggested to hold another meeting with the interested parties to review progress. Further negotiations were necessary.

The time may have passed to the extent that it would be compensation to be made under the Riot Damages Act. But the claims had been received. It would not be wise for the Government to like to prejudice this issue.

It was high time parents took their responsibility for their children. They would give their children the sort of upbringing and example which would not make them the sort of people to make the gladiatorial aspect.

House adjourned, 4.30 pm.

Stock Exchange Prices

Quiet end to the account

Account Days : Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings End, April 7. § Contango Day, April 12. Settlement Day, April 20
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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DEATHS

CARLON—On Thursday, 23th March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Carlton, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Carlton, died of cancer.

HEWITT—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Hewitt, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Hewitt, died of cancer.

HOGAN—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Hogan, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Hogan, died of cancer.

JAMES—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. James, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. James, died of cancer.

LEWIS—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Lewis, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Lewis, died of cancer.

LLOYD—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Lloyd, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Lloyd, died of cancer.

SCOTT—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Scott, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Scott, died of cancer.

WATSON—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Watson, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Watson, died of cancer.

WILLIAMS—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Williams, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Williams, died of cancer.

WILSON—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Wilson, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Wilson, died of cancer.

WYATT—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Wyatt, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Wyatt, died of cancer.

YOUNG—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Young, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Young, died of cancer.

ADAMS—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Adams, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Adams, died of cancer.

BROWN—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Brown, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Brown, died of cancer.

COOPER—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Cooper, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Cooper, died of cancer.

EVANS—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Evans, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Evans, died of cancer.

FRANKS—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Franks, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Franks, died of cancer.

GIBSON—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Gibson, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Gibson, died of cancer.

HARRIS—On 23rd March, 1977, at his home, 11, St. John's Road, London, aged 78, Mr. Harris, who was born in London, and was the husband of Mrs. Harris, died of cancer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAVE YOU SEEN THE REWILDERMENT
on the face of a lost cat or the fear in the eyes of a lost dog? The "Rewilderment" is a new and exciting way of finding lost pets. It is a service which is available to all pet owners. It is a service which is available to all pet owners. It is a service which is available to all pet owners.

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN
is the latest stage in the fight against cancer. It is a campaign which is aimed at raising money for cancer research. It is a campaign which is aimed at raising money for cancer research. It is a campaign which is aimed at raising money for cancer research.

NOBODY IS IMMUNE FROM STROKES AND HEART ATTACKS
This is a warning to all of us. It is a warning to all of us. It is a warning to all of us. It is a warning to all of us. It is a warning to all of us. It is a warning to all of us. It is a warning to all of us.

CANCER RESEARCH FIGHT BACK AGAINST CANCER
is a campaign which is aimed at raising money for cancer research. It is a campaign which is aimed at raising money for cancer research. It is a campaign which is aimed at raising money for cancer research.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR
Can you spare a few minutes to help a neighbour in need? This is a campaign which is aimed at encouraging people to help their neighbours. It is a campaign which is aimed at encouraging people to help their neighbours. It is a campaign which is aimed at encouraging people to help their neighbours.

INDIA TEA CENTRE
is a centre which is aimed at promoting the tea industry in India. It is a centre which is aimed at promoting the tea industry in India. It is a centre which is aimed at promoting the tea industry in India.

REWARD
Are you in a holiday cottage? This is a reward which is aimed at encouraging people to help their neighbours. It is a reward which is aimed at encouraging people to help their neighbours. It is a reward which is aimed at encouraging people to help their neighbours.

CUMBRIA COTTAGE
is a cottage which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a cottage which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a cottage which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

JERRY NEAR PICTURE
is a picture which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a picture which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a picture which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

PERMITS
are permits which are aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a permit which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a permit which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

DESIGNER'S CLOTHES
are clothes which are aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a clothes which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a clothes which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

ALICE AT MASTERS
is a masters which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a masters which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a masters which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

COASTGUARD
is a coastguard which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a coastguard which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a coastguard which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

DRIVE FROM LONDON
is a drive from London which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a drive from London which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a drive from London which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

SPRING BREAKS
are breaks which are aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a breaks which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a breaks which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

WELCOME PACK
is a pack which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a pack which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a pack which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

PARIS
is a Paris which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a Paris which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a Paris which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

SOUTH
is a South which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a South which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a South which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

HERON
is a heron which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a heron which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a heron which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 23

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

AT THE NEW GASLIGHT
The success story unfolds every night from 8.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. The New Gaslight is a new and exciting way of finding lost pets. It is a service which is available to all pet owners. It is a service which is available to all pet owners. It is a service which is available to all pet owners.

SPORT AND RECREATION
is a sport and recreation which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a sport and recreation which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a sport and recreation which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

PAINTING HOLIDAY
is a holiday which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a holiday which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a holiday which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

UK HOLIDAYS
are holidays which are aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a holidays which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a holidays which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

WATER'S EDGE HOTEL, JERSEY
is a hotel which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a hotel which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a hotel which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

HOLIDAY VACANCIES?
are vacancies which are aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a vacancies which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a vacancies which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

VENICE LIDO
One of Europe's most beautiful holiday resorts, Venice Lido is a new and exciting way of finding lost pets. It is a service which is available to all pet owners. It is a service which is available to all pet owners. It is a service which is available to all pet owners.

CIT
is a holiday which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a holiday which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a holiday which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

MOTOREING IN ITALY?
is a motoring in Italy which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a motoring in Italy which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a motoring in Italy which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

BEAUTIFUL, COLOURFUL, WELCOMING PORTUGAL
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TRAVELAIR
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ECONAIR
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UP UP AND AWAY
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WHEN FLYING
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MALTA
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EASTER BARGAINS
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FINING
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CRETE
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RELIABLE
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SWITZERLAND
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LOS ANGELES
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GREEN
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AMSTERDAM
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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

SWEDISH LAKELAND COTTAGE HOLIDAYS
Now from only £53
This is a holiday which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a holiday which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a holiday which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

TOR LINE
is a Tor Line which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a Tor Line which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a Tor Line which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

SAVE UP TO 40% ON TRAVEL COSTS
is a save up to 40% on travel costs which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a save up to 40% on travel costs which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people. It is a save up to 40% on travel costs which is aimed at providing a holiday home for people.

BUSINESS TRAVELLER
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